

THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XVI.—NEW SERIES, No. 431.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1854.

[PRICE 6d.]



TEMPERANCE LINE OF
PACKETS from LONDON to AUSTRALIA, calling at Plymouth.—For PORT PHILLIP and SYDNEY, calling off Adelaide with passengers only, the beautiful new clipper ship DAYLESFORD, A 1,685 tons register, ROULE CARY, Jun., (late of the Oregon,) Commander, and will meet with immediate despatch. She offers unusual advantages to passengers, having upwards of 7 feet height between decks, and great width of beam. The ventilation will be made most perfect, as, in addition to the ordinary appliances, she will be fitted with the ventilating apparatus recommended by Mrs. Chisholm. Baths and wash-houses will be erected on deck, and a library of 300 volumes will be supplied for the use of the passengers. A minister and an experienced surgeon will accompany the vessel. Passage-money for single persons and families 20 guineas. A few open berths for single men, at 18 guineas. For freight or passage apply to Griffiths, Newcombe, and Co., 27, Rood-lane, Fenchurch-street, London.

WANTED, the NONCONFORMIST,
Second or Third Day.—Address, N., 18, Flower-terrace, Limehouse.

WANTED, in a Dissenting family, a
YOUNG MAN who thoroughly understands the Drapery and Grocery trade. Unexceptionable reference required.—Apply to C. S. BANHAM, Kenninghall, Norfolk.

WANTED, by two Sisters, situations; one
in a Shoe Shop, who would give her services three months; the other to wait on an invalid lady or gentleman. Miss Lysum, Elstead, Godalming.

WANTED, a suitable person of unsec-
tarian character, competent to conduct a Sunday-school in the Vale of Clwyd, North Wales. It is desirable the candidate should be of good business habits, and a good penman, &c., as opportunities will present themselves for business occupation during the week.—Applications, stating the candidate's capabilities, and testimonials as to character, to be made to Mr. ANNLY, Druggist, Ruthin.

WANTED, a Situation as Messenger,
Collector, Store keeper, or Under Clerk, by a Respectable and ACTIVE MIDDLE AGED MAN, who writes a good hand; can be strongly recommended by the advertisers, to whom he has been long known, and who would guarantee his honesty.—Apply to Hooper and Parkinson, 1, Seething lane, Tower-street.

TO BUTCHERS.—Wanted, by a respectable
YOUNG MAN a situation as journeyman. Address:—A.B., Post-office, Road, Northamptonshire.

THE MIDLAND SCHOOL, near
Coventry, for Gentlemen, is conducted on rational and Christian principles. For a full prospectus, apply to Mr. WYLES.

IF any LADY engaged in the SCHOLASTIC
PROFESSION, immediately in the neighbourhood of London, is wishing to dispose of her establishment, she will oblige by communicating with Mrs. Y.Z., Post-office, Thame, Oxon.

EDUCATION.—The attention of Parents
is directed to an establishment in Bristol; conducted on Religious principles, where Young Ladies are well grounded in the elements of knowledge, trained as useful members of society, and qualified for the positions they are expected subsequently to occupy. Terms—including Board, English, Music, and French—20 guineas per annum.
An Assistant Pupil required at the half-quarter. Address:—Establishment for Young Ladies, 12, St. James's Square, Bristol.

MILL-HILL-SCHOOL, Hendon,
Middlesex.

Head Master, Rev. PHILIP SMITH, B.A.
Applications for the admission of pupils, and for preliminary information, may be made to the Head Master, or to the Secretary.
By order of the Committee,
ALGERNON WELLS, Secretary.

Old Jewry-chambers.

PORTLAND GRAMMAR SCHOOL, PLYMOUTH.
Conducted by Mr. R. F. Weymouth, M.A. (London), M.R.A.S., &c., &c.

THE higher Mathematical Classes receive
the benefit of the superintendence and lectures of the
REV. PROFESSOR NEWTH, M.A.,
Fellow of University College, London, author of "Elements of Statics," &c.

The course of studies pursued is suitable, as preparatory either for a college course, or for professional or commercial life.
The house is very healthily situated in the highest part of the town, and close to the northern outskirts, but at a convenient distance for sea-bathing.

DURLEY and Co., House Furnishers, beg
most respectfully to assert, that from their being *bona fide* manufacturers of Cabinet Furniture in every variety of style and wood, (from original designs by their own draughtsmen) may be obtained most advantageously from them. They only request that the style, quality, and prices of their furniture may be ascertained and fairly compared with any other house in the trade. Brussels, Tapestry, and Velvet Pile Carpets, in immense variety, at from 2s. 9d. per yard, as likewise every new and novel fabric for Curtains, coverings and Portieres, &c. &c. &c.—66, and 67, Oxford-street, nearly opposite the Pantheon.

TO BOOKSELLERS.—A Manager is
wanted for the Depository of the Book Society for Promoting Religious Knowledge among the Poor.—Apply by letter, stating age and qualifications, addressed to the Honorary Secretaries, at the Depository, 19, Paternoster-row, London, not later than the 10th of February next.
28th January, 1854.

ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL, HAVERSTOCK HILL.
Patron: Her Majesty the Queen.
For Children of both sexes, of all denominations, and from every part of the Kingdom.

THE NEXT ELECTION will occur in
April, when twenty-five children will be admitted. Candidates must be between seven and eleven years of age, and in good health. Forms to fill up, and all the requisite information may be obtained by applying at the office. All applications must be in the hands of the Secretary before the 1st of March. With ordinary effort every case must eventually succeed, as the votes are carried forward so long as the child is eligible.
Offices, 32 Ludgate Hill. JOSEPH SOUL, Secretary
Contributions will be thankfully received.

VOLUNTARY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION.
THE distinctive features of this Association
are—That all Education should be religious, but, at the same time, so free from Sectarian influence as to secure the sympathy and co-operation of all denominations of Evangelical Christians; and that the State, being incompetent to give such an Education to the people, should not interfere in the matter, but leave it entirely to Voluntary effort.

THE COMMITTEE having obtained ELIGIBLE APPOINTMENTS for those Pupils who have recently completed their course of study, have now a few VACANCIES in their Normal School for YOUNG MEN desirous of qualifying themselves for SCHOOLMASTERS.

The term of instruction is Twelve months; and the Course comprises, in addition to the usual routine of a sound English Education, Latin, Natural Philosophy, Biblical Studies, Singing, Drawing, and School Practice.
DOUGLAS ALLPORT, Secretary.
7, Walworth-place, Walworth.

JOHN WHITE'S SPECIAL MARGUAX
CLARET, 38s. per dozen-case; Burgundy, in prime condition, 48s. per dozen.—34, Dowgate-hill, Cannon-street.

JOHN WHITE'S SPARKLING CHAMPAGNE, 42s. per dozen, or £6 for a 3-dozen case.—34, Dowgate-hill, Cannon-street.

JOHN WHITE'S DINNER SHERRIES, from 26s.; Duff Gordon's Sherry, 36s.—34, Dowgate-hill, Cannon-street.

JOHN WHITE'S FINE OLD CRUSTED PORT, 36s. to 42s.; Unequaled, 48s. to 54s. Terms cash. All other wines of the best brands and choicest vintages, at equally moderate prices. If preferred, purchasers can be supplied at per gallon.—34, Dowgate-hill, Cannon-street.

£2,000 ALREADY DISPOSED OF,

NORTH LONDON COMMERCIAL
BENEFIT BUILDING SOCIETY. Established August, 1853. To terminate July, 1863. Shares, £50; monthly payments, 5s.; present entrance fee, 5s.; extra Shares to Borrowers, 2s. 6d. 5 per cent. guaranteed on withdrawal. Law charges fixed by rule. To close positively in 10 years.

The Directors of the above association, have made arrangements to offer a further sum of £500 for competition among the members, at their next subscription meeting, February 14th, at the North London Schools, Calthorpe Street, Gray's Inn Road, at 8 o'clock precisely.

All persons joining at, or prior to this meeting, will be entitled to bid for the right of advance,
Shares, Prospectuses, &c., may be obtained on application to the Secretary, or sent post free on the receipt of 2 postage-stamps.

Deposits of £5 and upwards, received at 5 per cent. James R. R. Fitt, Secretary, 12, King's Terrace, Bagnigge Wells Road.

SIR WILLIAM BURNETT'S DISINFECTING FLUID.

THE great and invariable success of Sir
William Burnett's Patent Solution, in Preserving Timber, &c., from Rot, and in arresting the Decomposition of Animal and Vegetable Matters, soon led to its general application as an Antiseptic or Disinfecting Agent; and, for the last eight years, it has been in general use, with a success and public benefit truly marvellous, for the Disinfection of Sick Rooms, Clothing, Linen, &c.; the Prevention of Contagion; the Purification of Bilge-water and Ships' Holds, Cesspools, Drains, Water-closets, Stables, Dog-kennels, &c.

It is now only necessary to caution the public against an imitation which, for the last month or two, has been advertised as an "IMPROVED CHLORIDE OF ZINC," and even recommended by selections from Sir William Burnett's own Testimonials.

Sir William Burnett's Disinfecting Fluid is sold by all Chemists and Druggists, and at No. 18, Cannon-street, London-bridge.

ARNOLD'S STAMPED GOLD CHAIN,
and FIRST CLASS WATCHES at the Wholesale Price from the Manufactory.

Ladies' Chains 3 Guineas. Gold Watches 6 Guineas.
Gentlemen's Chains 1½ Guineas. Silver Watches 3 Guineas.

The Watches are extra jewelled, and warranted for one or three years, according to their value.

The great success of the plan of stamping all Gold Chains sold at this Manufactory (now in operation many months), and the consequent increase of business, has led to the discontinuance of the wholesale trade in favour of the public, and the extensive retail connexion of the house, all customers being served alike, at the manufacturing prices.

Office, Shop, and Hall EIGHT DAY DIALS, THREE GUINEAS.
Ditto, to strike, Half a Guinea extra. Only best work.
Goods sent into the country, and all orders delivered free.

REVOLUTION IN LITHOGRAPHY.
—MACLURE, MACDONALD, and MACGREGOR, are the SOLE PATENTEES of the SELF-ACTING LITHOGRAPHIC MACHINES—applicable to all kinds of Lithographic Printing.
37, Walbrook, Mansion-house, London.

FOR 7s. 6d., 200 STEEL ENGRAVINGS
from the ANNUALS; suitable for Scrap-Books.
JAMES REYNOLDS, Publisher, 174, Strand.

COCOA-NUT FIBRE MATTING and
MATS of the best quality. The Jury of Class 28, Great Exhibition, awarded the Prize Medal to T. TRELOAR, Cocoa-nut Fibre Manufacturer, 42, Ludgate-hill, London.

A TREATISE on PIGGOTT'S
GALVANIC BELT without acid, for the cure of diseases, to be had on receipt of a Postage-stamp.—Mr. W. P. PIGGOTT, the Medical Galvanist, 523h, Oxford-street, Bloomsbury, London.

SCOTTISH and IRISH LINEN
WAREHOUSE, 261, Oxford-street, near North Audley-street. DAVID BIRRELL, Manufacturer of Table Linen. Every description of Household Linens, Blankets, &c., at moderate prices.

WINTER CLOTHING, FLANNELS,
BLANKETS, &c.—To Charities and Benefit Societies.—Messrs. ATKINSON and Co. beg to call particular attention to their very extensive Stock of Goods in the above departments, which they are selling at such prices as will give the fullest effect possible to the intentions of the benevolent at this season of the year.
ATKINSON and Co., Upholsterers and Drapers, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, and 75, Westminster-bridge-road, Lambeth.

DEACON'S COFFEE AND DINING
HOUSE, 3, WALBROOK CITY, opposite the Church-door. Established 1812. Hot Joins from 12 to 5. Chops, Steaks, Fish, &c. Wines, Spirits, &c. Breakfast ready at 8. Cup of Coffee or Tea, 3d. Provincial papers from every county filed; also, the *Nonconformist*, *Banner*, *Watchman*, *Westeyan Times*, *London Gazette*, *Mining and Railway Papers*, *Times*, *Australian*, *American*, *Ceylon*, *Cape*, *West India*, &c.; for which, and all other papers, Advertisements are received, at the office, Bond-court Walbrook, by Samuel Deacon.

TO NERVOUS SUFFERERS.—
A retired Clergyman, having been restored to health in a few days, after many years of great nervous suffering, is anxious to make known to others the means of cure. Will, therefore, send (free), on receiving a stamped envelope, properly addressed, a copy of the prescription used.
* Direct, the Rev. E. DOUGLAS, 18, Holland-street, Brixton, London.

MEETING OF PARLIAMENT.—
WM. DAWSON and SONS regularly SUPPLY all the LONDON NEWSPAPERS by the morning, evening, and foreign mails to all parts of the United Kingdom and abroad. Advertisements inserted in all the London and country newspapers. A list, with politics, day of publication, &c., sent (gratis) on application. —Abchurch-yard, and 74, Cannon-street, City; established 1809.

FIVE GUINEAS.—Mr. WM. H. HALSE,

the Medical Galvanist, of 22, BRUNSWICK-SQUARE, LONDON, informs his friends that his FIVE GUINEA APPARATUS are now ready.
Send two postage-stamps for his Pamphlet on Medical Galvanism.

DEPOT for ENGLISH and AMERICAN

WORKS on PHYSIOLOGY, PHRENOLOGY, TEMPERANCE, HYDROPATHY, MESMERISM, VEGETARIANISM, and PROGRESS. Catalogues sent free on application. Phrenological Examination and Analysis of Character, from 2s. 6d. By Mrs. HAMILTON.
London: HORSELL and SHIRREFFS, Agents, 492, New Oxford-street, (two doors from Holborn.)

BARCLAY and CO.'S STOUT, 3s. 6d. per

DOZEN QUARTS, by taking Six Dozen; a less quantity, 4s. per Dozen.

BASS and Co.'s PALE ALE, 6s. per Dozen Quarts, 3s. 6d. per Dozen Pints.

PALE or GOLD SHERRY, 26s., 28s., 30s., 36s., 42s.

OLD BOTTLED PORT, 36s., 42s., 48s.

DRAUGHT PORT, 26s., 28s., 30s.

CHAMPAGNE, 40s. and upwards.

CASH ONLY.

W. WHITTAKER, 24, CRUTCHED FRIARS, CITY.

CURE OF STAMMERING, &c.

EDINBURGH.

MR. A. MELVILLE BELL, F.R.S.S.A.,

PROFESSOR of ELOCUTION and VOCAL PHYSIOLOGY, Author of the "Principles of Speech," the "Elocutionary Manual," "Observations on Speech and Vocal Impediments," &c. &c.—Receives resident or visiting Pupils, in Edinburgh, for the GUARANTEED CURE OF STAMMERING, and all DEFECTS of SPEECH. Prospectus, with Testimonials and Card of Terms, forwarded on receipt of postage (4 stamps). Address—13, South Charlotte Street, Charlotte Square, Edinburgh.

* Prices of the works mentioned above, which may be ordered of any Bookseller:—No. 1, 6s. 6d.; No. 2, 3s. 6d.; No. 3, sixpence.

SARL'S ARGENTINE SILVER PLATE

IS THE BEST SUBSTITUTE FOR SOLID SILVER.

MANUFACTORY, 18, POULTRY (near the Mansion House), LONDON.

THIS unrivalled production continues to give the same satisfaction as when first introduced by SARL and SONS, ten years ago. From its intrinsic value, and brilliant appearance, it far surpasses all other substitutes for solid silver. A new and magnificent stock has just been completed for the present season, in which public inspection is respectfully invited. It comprises SPOONS and FORKS, CORNER DISHES and COVERS, DISH COVERS, EPERGNES and CANDELABRAS with Beautiful Figures and Classical Designs, TEA and COFFEE EQUIPAGES, CRUET FRAMES, CASK BASKETS, CANDLESTICKS, SALVERS, TEA TRAYS, DECANTER STANDS, LIQUEUR FRAMES, TEA URNS and KETTLES, SOUP and SAUCE TURENS, with every article requisite for the Dinner, Tea, or Breakfast Service. Pamphlets, containing drawings and prices of all the articles, gratis, and sent postage free to all parts of the kingdom. Any article may be had separately as a sample.

SOLE INVENTORS AND MANUFACTURERS,

SARL & SONS, 18, POULTRY (near the Mansion House, London.)

QUALITY, the TEST of CHEAPNESS.

BERDOES OVERCOATS and CAPES resist any amount of rain. One of the largest stocks in London, of Superior Garments at lowest charges. First class DRESS COATS, £3. BOYS SUIT, 11d. per inch, according to height. — 96, NEW BOND STREET, and 69, CORNHILL. (No where else.)

FUTVOYE'S PRESENTS for the SEA-

SON, comprising every description of English and Foreign Fancy Goods, Dressing and Writing Cases, Workboxes, Jewellery, Clocks, Watches, Bronzes, China, Glass, Alabaster, Papier Mache, and French Stationery, at Paris prices; Bibles, Prayer-books, and thousands of articles in bijouterie and vertu. — FUTVOYE and Co., 154, Regent-street, corner of Beak-street.

FUTVOYE'S EIGHT-DAY ROUND

BRASS DIALS, 14s. 6d. each, warranted; also an immense variety of French Clocks under shade, from £2 2s. each, of the newest and most elegant designs. — FUTVOYE and Co., 154, Regent-street, corner of Beak-street, and 34, Rue de Rivoli, Paris.

FUTVOYE'S £3 3s. LADIES' ROSE-

WOOD DRESSING-CASES, with Jewel Drawers and Solid Silver Top Bottles. — An immense variety of Writing and Dressing Cases, Despatch Boxes, Souffettes, Work-boxes, filled Reticules, and every description of Fancy Cabinet and Leather Goods. — 154, Regent-street, corner of Beak-street.

FUTVOYE'S £4 4s. GOLD WATCHES

four holes jewelled, horizontal escapement, warranted. — Silver Watches, £2 10s. Solid Gold Chains, of their own manufacture, sold at per ounce, and the fashion only charged. — Every description of Jewellery taken in exchange, or purchased for cash. — 154, Regent-street, corner of Beak-street.

FUTVOYE'S PAPIER MACHE AR-

TICLES, in every variety, consisting of Pole and Hand-Screens, Chess, and Work Tables, Tea Trays and Caddies, Blotting and Cigar Cases, &c. — Mr. Futvoye being the Son of the original inventor of this work, is enabled to produce specimens far surpassing those of every other manufacturer. All descriptions of Japan work repaired, equal to new. — 154, Regent-street, corner of Beak-street.

TAXES ON KNOWLEDGE.—A Soiree.

In honour of the Repeal of the Advertisement Duty, will be given by the Association of T. MIFNER GIBSON, M.P., on Wednesday, February 8th, 1854, at the Whittington Club, Arundel-street, Strand: Sir John Villiers Shelley, Bart., M.P., in the Chair. — The meeting will be addressed by Richard Cobden, M.P.; T. M. Gibson, M.P.; and by other Gentlemen. — Appropriate music by professional vocalists. — Single tickets, 1s. 5d., and double tickets (to admit two ladies or a lady and gentleman), 2s. 6d. — May be had of J. A. Novello, 69, Dean-street, and 24, Poultry; at the Whittington Club; and at the Office of the Association, 20, Great Corn-street, Brunswick-square.

TO BOOKSELLERS and STATIONERS.

—To be disposed of, with immediate possession, a business of first class respectability, long established, and in full prosperity, well situated in a place of large population and fashionable resort. The shop is modern in style, and in a most commanding locality. The Stock is well selected, and in good condition. The Library commands a large body of subscribers. Satisfactory reasons for disposal can be given. Capital required about £2,000. — Address, Mr. John Gray, Valuer to the Trade, 131, High-street, Croydon.

ESTABLISHED 1726.

CHAPLIN and LAMBERT, TALLOW

MELTERS, CANDLE MANUFACTURERS, OIL and ITALIAN WAREHOUSEMEN, 89 and 90, LEATHER-LANE, HOLBORN, beg to suggest to their numerous friends and others, who are about to lay in their Winter's stock, that every article supplied at their Establishment is of first-rate quality, and charged at the lowest remunerative price.

A List of Articles, with prices annexed, sent post free on application.

Orders with remittances promptly executed, and delivered at any of the Metropolitan Railway Stations.

G. and L. particularly recommend their TOWN TALLOW-MADE CANDLES.

Price's and Palmer's Composite and Metallic Candles at manufacturer's prices.

Purchasers of C. and L.'s celebrated Stamped Soaps will have the full amount of benefit accruing from the repeal of the duty.

THE BUDGET OF 1853.

IN strict conformity with the REDUCTION

of the TEA DUTY, A. HIND has constructed his Scale of Prices, and invites public attention to the following quotations:—

Rich PEKOE LAPSANG SOUCHONG, such as the E.I. Company used to bring over, 8s. 8d. per lb.

High-scented and Rich-flavoured Flowery ASSAM, reduced from 4s. 4d. to 4s. per lb.

Our CHOICE MIXTURE of the Best Black and Green Teas, comprising all the excellences of the richest and rarest productions of China and Assam judiciously blended, 4s. per lb.

OUCHAIN YOUNG HYSOON, HYSOON, and PEARL GUNPOWDER 8s. 8d., 5s., 4s. 4d., 4s., 3s. 8d., and 3s. 4d. per lb.

All these are of the prime quality and most delicious flavour. Lower quantities at proportionately reduced prices.

Choice MOCHA COFFEE, rich and mellow, of great strength, 1s. 4d. per lb.

Very excellent PLANTATION CEYLON, packed in Tin Cans, fresh and warm from the Mill, 1s. per lb.

HIND'S GREAT CENTRAL TEA ESTABLISHMENT, corner of NORTH-STREET, KING'S-CROSS (the third turning from the Great Northern Terminus, City side).

Wholesale Depot for

HIND'S CELEBRATED ONE SHILLING PARISH SAUCE.

P. O. Orders to be made payable to ANDREW HIND, at the Office, King's-cross.

GOLD AND SILVER WATCHES.

SARL and SONS, WATCH MANUFACTURERS, 18, POULTRY (near the Mansion House), invite attention to their new and very extensive STOCK of GOLD and SILVER WATCHES. The patterns are of the latest style, and the movements of the most highly-finished description. Every make can be had. The following prices will convey an outline of the Stock, combining economy with quality:—

	Gold Cases and Dials.	Silver Cases.
Watches of the Horizontal make, jewelled in four holes, main- taining power, 1st size.....	£ 4 d.	£ 2 s. d.
Ditto, 2nd size.....	5 0 0	2 18 0
Ditto, 3rd size.....	7 10 0	3 3 0
Patent lever movements, detached escapements, jewelled in four or six holes, 2nd size.....	9 9 0	3 18 0
Ditto with the flat, fashionable style, with the most highly-finished movements, jewelled in ten extra holes, 3rd size.....	14 14 0	5 18 0

A written warranty for accurate performance is given with every watch, and a twelvemonths' trial allowed. — A very extensive and splendid assortment of fine gold neck-chains; charged according to the weight of sovereigns.

A pamphlet, containing a list of the prices of the various articles in gold and silver, may be had gratis. — Address, SARL & SONS, 18, POULTRY (near the Mansion House, London.)

4,200 SHARES ISSUED!

CITY OF LONDON and COUNTIES

FREEHOLD LAND SOCIETY. Offices, 79, Farringdon-street. Members enrolled Daily. — Office Hours from 10 till 5: on Tuesdays, 10 till 8. Shares, £30 each. Entrance Fee (including Rules), One Shilling. — Monthly Subscription, Four Shillings, payable every 28 days. — Transfer Fee, One Shilling per Share. A BALLOT takes place at the Offices of the Society every Wednesday evening, at 7 o'clock precisely, and the owners of Shares drawn (the Subscriptions on which are not in arrear) are entitled to choose out of either of the Estates purchased. The first portion of the Walthamstow Estate will be submitted to the Members entitled to choose, on Thursday, February 16th. Plans may be obtained at the Offices of the Society, 79, Farringdon-street on and after Monday, February 6, price 3d. each. Rules (price 3d. to non-members) and Prospectuses gratis.

JAMES HIGHAM, Secretary.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

SCOTTISH EQUITABLE (MUTUAL)

LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

EDINBURGH.... 25, St Andrew-square.
LONDON.... 126, Bishopsgate-street.

TO SECURE THE ADVANTAGE OF THIS YEAR'S ENTRY, PROPOSALS MUST BE LODGED AT THE HEAD OFFICE, OR AT ANY OF THE SOCIETY'S AGENCIES, ON OR BEFORE THE 1ST OF MARCH. — POLICIES EFFECTED ON OR BEFORE THE 1ST MARCH, 1854, WILL RECEIVE SIX YEAR'S ADDITIONS AT THE ALLOCATION AT 1ST MARCH, 1859.

ROBT. CHRISTIE, Manager.

WM. FINLAY, Secretary.

126, Bishopsgate-street, Feb. 1, 1853.

INSTITUTED 1831.

SCOTTISH EQUITABLE LIFE

ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

Incorporated by Royal Charters, and Special Act of Parliament.
Head Office—EDINBURGH; 26, St. Andrew-square.

Manager—Robert Christie, Esq.

LONDON: 126, Bishopsgate-street, Cornhill.

GLASGOW: 103, St. Vincent-street.

The SCOTTISH EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY is an institution peculiarly adapted to afford Provision for Families. It was established in the year 1831, upon the principle of MUTUAL CONTRIBUTION, the Surplus or Profit being wholly divisible among the members; and the Additions which have been made to Policies at the periodical investigations of the Society afford satisfactory evidence of the prosperity of the Institution, and the great advantages derived by its members. The following Examples exhibit the additions already made:—

A Policy for £1,000, opened in 1832, is now increased to £1,608 9s. 4d.

" " 1,000, " 1835, " 1,407 18 7

" " 1,000, " 1840, " 1,297 16 7

The Profits are ascertained and divided Triennially amongst Policies of more than five years' duration.

The Annual Revenue is upwards of £140,000.

The Amount of Assurances in force is upwards of £4,000,000 sterling.

The Amount paid to the Representatives of Deceased Members exceeds £500,000 sterling.

The Total Amount of Vested Additions allocated to Policies exceeds £600,000.

The Accumulated Fund is upwards of £760,000.

Loans granted to Members to the extent of the Office value of their Policies.

Copies of the Annual Report, Forms of Proposal, and all information, may be had on application at any of the Society's Offices, in town or country.

ROBT. CHRISTIE, Manager.

WILLIAM FINLAY, Secretary.

W. COOK, Agent.

126, Bishopsgate-street, London

December, 1853.

CIRCULATION OF THE MORNING PAPERS.

SUPPLEMENTS TO THE MORNING ADVERTISER.

THE extraordinary increase which has taken

place in the circulation of the *Morning Advertiser* since its enlargement, three years ago, has been followed by so great an influx of advertisements, as to render indispensable the publication of a series of SUPPLEMENTS after the commencement of the approaching session. Supplements to the *Morning Advertiser* will accordingly be issued as often as the pressure of Advertisements or intelligence may render their publication requisite. To form an idea of the increase which has taken place in the circulation of the *Morning Advertiser*, it will only be necessary to give the Newspaper Stamp Returns for 1850, and the circulation, as nearly as may be ascertained, of the various morning papers, except one, at the present time. In 1850, the Stamp Returns gave the following results:—

MORNING ADVERTISER..... 1,549,843

Daily News..... 1,162,000

Morning Herald..... 1,139,000

Morning Chronicle..... 912,547

Morning Post..... 828,000

It will be observed from this statement, that, omitting the *Times*, the circulation of the *Morning Advertiser* was then far above that of its morning contemporaries. Were the Stamp Returns to be given down to the present time, the relative circulation of the *Morning Advertiser* to its four morning contemporaries—assuming that their circulation has undergone no diminution—would be as follows:—

MORNING ADVERTISER..... 2,356,280

Daily News..... 1,162,000

Morning Herald..... 1,139,000

Morning Chronicle..... 912,547

Morning Post..... 828,000

It will be seen that the present circulation of the *Morning Advertiser* is more than double that of the two highest of its four contemporaries, and nearly treble that of one of their number. The annals of Journalism contain no instance of success at all approaching to this. Such brilliant progress is the best compliment which could be paid to the *Morning Advertiser's* entire independence of all parties and Governments, and its earnest and unceasing advocacy of the popular cause.

Published every Morning at 127, Fleet-street,

January, 1854.

NATIONAL FREEHOLD LAND SO-

CITY.—Notice is hereby given, that the annual meeting of the members of the National Permanent Mutual Benefit Building Society, (commonly called the National Freehold Land Society,) will be held at the LONDON TAVERN, Bishopsgate-street, in the City of London, on Thursday, 16th February, 1854, at half-past six o'clock in the evening.

W. E. WHITTINGHAM, SECRETARY,

14, Moorgate-street, 30th January, 1854.

None but Members admitted.

HOUSEHOLDERS' AND GENERAL

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THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XVI.—NEW SERIES, No. 431.]

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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

LAW AND LOVE.

SIR JOHN YOUNG, Secretary for Ireland, ventured last session to declare his belief that Christianity, unaided by legislative support, would speedily "die out of the land." What sort of estimate he has formed of the vital force of the faith which he professes, may be shrewdly conjectured from this declaration. His own ass might well have turned to rebuke him. But we make bold to predict, that the hon. baronet will never repeat the sentiment. The Census Report on Religious Worship, to which we return for the last time previously to the opening of Parliament, has effectually shut his mouth, or, if he ever opens it to utter such an absurdity again, that volume of "facts and figures" will, assuredly, be flung at him from all sides of the House.

We have already given our readers a correct outline of Protestant Dissent, sketched from the materials furnished us by that admirable volume; but we have not hitherto contrasted the results, in regard to religious accommodation and attendance, of State endowments on the one hand, and Voluntary effort on the other. For this purpose, it is necessary to compare the Church of England with all non-endowed bodies taken in the aggregate, and after we have submitted to the reader some of the most striking facts of the case, we think he will be fully prepared to endorse the inferences which have been put into shape for us by another hand.

The number of buildings for divine worship belonging to the State-endowed Church, are set down in the Census Report as 14,077; those erected by the non-endowed sects number 20,390. If, from these latter we are compelled in fairness to deduct some 3,285 as merely schools, or private rooms, appropriated to public prayer and religious teaching, whilst only 223 of the former are described as "not separate buildings," we are also bound to remark, in relation to State-Church edifices, that of late years many of them have been reared by the exclusive operation of the Voluntary principle. Mr. Horace Mann calculated, that of the £9,087,000 spent during the last half century in the erection of new churches, £1,663,429 only has been supplied by Government, and £7,423,571 have been contributed by individual benevolence—in other words, that even within the pale of the Establishment the force of "love" has exceeded that of "law" by four-and-a-half fold. We regret that we cannot receive this flattering representation as entirely correct, although guaranteed by so high an authority as the editor of the *Leeds Mercury*. Mr. Horace Mann has not included in "public funds," any sums obtained for church-building purposes by means of local rates. These are, in their nature, as opposite to private benefactions as Parliamentary grants, and we fear they have had not a little share in making up the amount of £7,423,571. We know not that it has ever been our good fortune to be located in a parish in which we were not called upon for a tax, under the name of "Church Building Annuity Rate," and our observation would lead us to conclude that our experi-

ence has been by no means singular. At least one-third, therefore, of the above seven millions sterling must be deducted, we fear, from the credit side of the Voluntary principle, leaving about £5,000,000, or about 1,600 churches as owing nothing whatever to State endowments.

But this, after all, is but the first step in a series. Whilst the Church of England, partly by the compulsory, and partly by the voluntary, system has added only 24 per cent. to its religious accommodation during the last fifty years, the other denominations, by virtue of Voluntaryism exclusively, have added 455 per cent. The Editor of the *Leeds Mercury*, one of our most accomplished and conscientious staticians, estimates the number of new places of worship erected by the non-endowed sects, since A.D. 1801, at 10,000, at an average cost of £1,500 each; making a total sum of £15,000,000. We think him considerably within the mark. We see no sufficient reason for arbitrarily reducing the Census Report of separate buildings erected during that period, from 16,689 to 10,000; and we think £1,500 too low an average for the cost of each, including land, fittings, conveyancing, &c. We believe that £17,500,000 will not be too high an amount at which to estimate the sum total expended by the non-endowed denominations in providing accommodation for divine worship, since the beginning of the century. The balance of effort will then stand thus: "Law" has furnished to this end, from Government sources, £1,663,429, and from local rates, say enough to raise the amount to £3,000,000. "Love" has provided for the same purpose, in the Church about £5,000,000, out of it, about £17,500,000; making altogether £22,500,000 against £3,000,000. What will Sir J. Young say to this?

The above relates to mere buildings. The current expenses of worship and the maintenance of ministers would show even greater disproportions. But having gone over this ground, in part, at least, in our article on Protestant Dissent, we refrain from wearying the reader with details. Mr. E. Baines estimates the annual charge borne by Dissenters to exceed £1,200,000. We believe he might safely have put it, all things included, at a much higher figure.

Let us, in presenting the subject in another aspect, avail ourselves of another's labour. The author of "The Political Annual" thus ably summarizes the statements of the Census Report, in regard to attendants on divine worship:—"The number of adherents possessed by the several sects respectively, as indicated by the attendance on the Census Sunday, cannot be arrived at otherwise than by approximate calculations. Taking the most numerously-attended service on the day in question—varying in the case of different religious bodies—the number of worshippers was, in the

Churches of the Establishment	2,971,258
Dissenter's places of worship	3,384,964

Being a difference of 413,706 in favour of Dissent. But as many were present at only one service, and that not the most numerously attended, this statement does not give the total number of attendants. Taking as the basis of his calculation the supposition that one-half those present in the afternoon, and one-third of those in the evening, were new attendants, Mr. Mann concludes that 7,261,032 persons attended some service on the day in question, and that of these 3,773,474 were in churches, and 3,487,558 in Dissenting chapels; so that, out of every 1,000 who so attended, 520 were in churches, and 480 in chapels. But if certain sections of the kingdom be segregated, this disproportion is more than reversed. In Wales the preponderance of Dissent is enormous, as will

be seen from the attendance at each of the services:—

	Morn.	Aft.	Even.
Attendants at Dissent. Chapels	247,394	134,835	324,859
" Churches	85,089	40,525	31,454

Dissenting preponderance... 162,305 94,310 293,405

And in Yorkshire the numbers were:—

	Morn.	Aft.	Even.
Attendance at Dissent. Chapels	220,977	185,992	215,740
" Churches	168,712	120,751	53,280

Dissenting preponderance... 52,265 65,241 162,460

While the buildings of the Establishment furnish the greatest number of sittings, such sittings are less available than those provided by Dissenters, who, by having a greater number of services, make more use of their accommodation—or, to use Mr. Mann's phraseology, 'get more out of their buildings.' Thus, taking an average of 1,000 sittings provided by all parties, only 649 in churches are available at each period of the day, against 690 in chapels; and, while the Church of England had 3,773,474 attendants against 3,487,558 Dissenting attendants, the number of attendances given by the larger body is actually less than that given by the smaller—the former attending 5,292,551, and the latter 5,603,515 times."

We cannot better close this article than by quoting the conclusions of the same writer:—

"From these statistics—which have been furnished by the parties most closely affected by them—the following important conclusions are clearly deducible:—

"1. That the State, having taken upon itself the charge of the nation's spiritual interests by 'establishing' a church—such church assuming to be the only authorized religious instructor of the people—does not, in fact, provide places of worship for more than one-half (about) of those for whom such accommodation is required.

"2. That twenty years ago this deficiency was much greater, and that the extension of the resources of the Establishment, which has taken place during that period, has resulted not from State support, but, almost exclusively, from the spontaneous liberality of its members, and that, therefore, the Church of England has grown stronger as a church since it has become—in a pecuniary respect—less of an establishment.

"3. That notwithstanding all the supposed advantages—legal, pecuniary, and social—possessed for centuries by the Church of England, those who dissent from it, besides contributing to the support of the Establishment, and in spite of past persecution and of present social proscription, have erected a greater number of religious edifices, and provided nearly as many sittings.

"4. That Dissenters, being unfettered by State restrictions, and not enervated by State-patronage and wealth, display a greater amount of religious activity, and work their religious machinery more extensively, than the members of the Establishment.

"5. That in the large towns, where there is the greatest amount of mental activity, and which have an increasing weight in influencing the national policy, dissent from the Established Church decidedly preponderates; the two most important counties, Lancashire and Yorkshire, manifesting that preponderance in the greatest degree.

"6. That Wales, while much poorer than England, is better provided with the means of spiritual instruction, and that as the result of Voluntary effort—the 'Poor Man's Church' being maintained by the poor man himself, and not by the State.

"7. That we have a national church to which two-thirds of the nation do not belong; and that the appellation 'Church of England' is a misnomer.

"8. That this Establishment taxes all other religious bodies, and places them at a serious disadvantage, and yet that they do one-half its work at their own cost."

RELATIVE GROWTH OF CHURCH AND DISSENT.

(From the *Daily News*.)

Facts are stubborn things; and the hardest nuts the Church of England has had to crack since the Reformation are certainly the facts and figures of the Census of 1851. For, notwithstanding the enormous wealth of its endowments (quite £5,000,000 a year), the voluntary liberality of its members to its various societies (exceeding probably £600,000 a year), its connexion with the State, its exclusive possession of the two richest Universities in the world, its alliance with the higher, and its hold on the lower portions of society, and its complete parochial organization—notwithstanding all these advantages, and its historical associations, the Census of 1851 plainly shows, that already the Church has been nearly overtaken by Nonconformity. In the number of its places of worship Protestant Dissent has indeed attained a great advantage over the Church in England and Wales; and, though the

* We avail ourselves of the present opportunity to recommend to our readers' notice the valuable shilling volume, from which the foregoing extracts have been taken, viz., "The Political Annual and Reformer's Hand Book, for 1854. London: A. and S. Cockshaw, 6, Horse-shoe-court, Ludgate-hill." "The Reformer's Electoral Table," one of the principal contents, is alone worth the money, and ought, during the anticipated discussion on the new Reform Bill, to be in the hands of every liberal member of Parliament. It is seldom one meets with such a cheap lot of solid information.

amount of accommodation they afford is inferior, the average rate of attendance is superior. The number of persons of all denominations present at the most numerous attended services on Sunday, March 30, 1851, was 6,358,222. Of that number, 2,971,258 attended the Church of England, no fewer than 3,110,782 attended Protestant Dissenting places of worship, whilst 249,389 attended Roman Catholic chapels. Before figures like these Paley's theory of a State Church, the theory of majorities, receives a serious shake; and should Dissent progress in the next half century at the rate it has in the last, the Church, as indicated and represented by places of worship, accommodation, and attendance—and there can be no better or safer tests—will be distanced by Protestant Nonconformity.

The numerical strength of the Church of England lies in the London division, in the south-eastern, and in the eastern counties of England. The power of Protestant Nonconformity is in Yorkshire, the northern counties, in Wales, and in the great manufacturing towns. In Wales, indeed, Dissent is quite predominant; for whilst in the Principality, with its million and a quarter of people, 84 per cent. of the population has religious accommodation, 57 per cent. of it belongs to Protestant Dissent, and only 26 per cent. to the Church; and the consequence is, that in Wales, no additional sittings are required, the assumption being that accommodation is necessary only for 58 per cent. of the population—an amount Dissent alone nearly provides in Wales. Out of a population of 1,800,000, additional accommodation to the extent of only 116,000 sittings is required for the great shire of York; and of the existing accommodation 34 per cent. belongs to Protestant Dissent, but 25 to the Church. So, also, in the four northern counties, with their 1,000,000 of inhabitants; 27 per cent. of the accommodation belongs to Dissent; 21 to the Church. These, we say, are great facts.

Indeed, the truth appears to be that, as a general rule, Protestant Dissent is stronger than the Church in towns containing more than 50,000 inhabitants. Of course we do not include the metropolis in this rule; but, excluding London, the other exceptions are so few as to establish it. They consist of Liverpool, West Derby, Macclesfield, and Wolverhampton; in all these towns the Church has got more accommodation than Protestant Dissent; but in the three first named, it is to be remarked, Popery, also, is unusually well provided for; and the superiority of the Church in Wolverhampton arises, we presume, from Wolverhampton having some years ago thoroughly reformed its Church Establishment. But just observe how the case stands generally in large country towns. Leeds has 100,000 inhabitants, and for 49 per cent. of them there is no accommodation; 15 per cent. only, however, is Church, 31 per cent. Dissenting. Bradford, with 180,000 people, has accommodation for 41 per cent.; 13 per cent. being provided by the Church, 27 per cent. by Nonconformity. Halifax has 130,000 inhabitants and accommodation for 45 per cent., Church 16 per cent., Dissent 27. In Huddersfield, with its 124,000 inhabitants, the figures are, total accommodation 49 per cent., Church 21, Dissent 27. Going further north—Newcastle-upon-Tyne has 80,000 inhabitants; and accommodation for only 34 per cent.; but of it, Dissent provides 20 per cent., the Church only 12 per cent., Popery 2. In the neighbouring borough of Tynesmouth, containing 70,000 people, of its 50 per cent. of accommodation, Dissent furnishes 31, the Church but 13. So at Hull, returning south again, the figures are, Dissent 25 per cent., Church 15 per cent. At Manchester, with nearly 300,000 people, the returns show a state of things exceedingly remarkable as to all denominations. In that city there is only accommodation for 33 per cent. of its population, but of it Dissent has provided 15 per cent., the Church only 14. Chorlton is even worse off; it has 123,000 inhabitants, and accommodation for 31 per cent. only; Dissent 18 per cent., Church 12. Bolton, too, is in nearly the same state; for of its 114,000 people only 37 per cent. have church or chapel room, Dissent furnishing 19 per cent. against the Church's 17. In comparison with Yorkshire, Lancashire, therefore, shows to a disadvantage in respect to Church accommodation; and when we thus see how terribly neglected the population of its great towns is, we need feel little surprise that, while Yorkshire is quite free from, Lancashire is plagued with, strikes.

Go into the great iron districts, and the same inferiority of the Church to Dissent is to be seen. West Bromwich has 70,000 inhabitants; 48 per cent. have accommodation for worship, 24 of which Dissent provides, 18 the Church. Dudley now contains 100,000 people, 46 per cent. of whom can go to church or chapel at one time on Sunday, but 27 must go to the latter; only 17 can find room in the former. At Birmingham and Stourbridge the proportions are not so disadvantageous to the Church, but even in them they are favourable to Nonconformity. And in the Midland Counties, at Leicester and at Derby, Dissenting accommodation also predominates.

In the west of England there is no difference. Stroud has 54,000 inhabitants, and accommodation for 84 per cent.; 42 of which Dissent provides, the Church 30. At Portsea, in the south-west, there are 73,000 people; for whom the Church provides accommodation for 17 per cent., against Dissent's 18. And so at Redruth and Penzance, in Cornwall, each having 54,000 inhabitants; it is Dissent 50 per cent. against half that per centage of the Church.

Of course we shall be told that these are principally new towns, places of rapid growth. But that has nothing to do with the relative exertions of Protestant sects in them, and cannot dispose of the fact we have thus established of the superiority, and the growing superiority too, of Protestant and Orthodox Nonconformity in our most flourishing towns. In new towns both Church and Dissent have started fair, and Dissent has beaten the Church.

But in some of our oldest towns—nay, in cathedral cities—Dissent has the same superiority. Durham, for instance, contains 56,000 inhabitants, and has only accommodation for thirty-eight per cent.; but of it the inhabitants owe twenty per cent. to Dissent, fifteen per cent. to the Church. Yet the revenues of the Bishop of Durham exceed £20,000 a-year, and the Dean and Chapter have property to double that amount. So, too, at Bristol; thirty-eight per cent. of the accommodation is furnished by Dissent, twenty-four by the Church, whose Bishop grants long leases of episcopal manors to his own family, putting in the leases the lives of the royal children. The same is the case at Carlisle; the same at Ely. And just in proportion as the other episcopal cities are populous, does Nonconformity in them press heavily on the Church.

And it is with these facts in existence that Puseyism, and High Churchism, and Episcopacy have described Nonconformity as being left to the "uncovenanted mercies of God"—as being in a dangerous and perilous state. Let us trust, then, that with a more correct knowledge of its actual position in the country, we shall have increased sincerity, greater purity, and an honest Church reform. For it is not by such ecclesiastical impertinence that the Church can recover the masses it has lost; nor by offensive sacerdotal pretensions like these that it can defend itself from their attacks, should they ever resolutely unite for its overthrow.

Among other facts, let the true sons of the Established Church lay this to heart—that the comparison between the accommodation it provides for worshippers, and the accommodation provided by Dissent, would have been still more to its disadvantage, if instituted before it had recourse (as it has largely of late years) to the Voluntary principle as an agent in Church extension. By continued reliance on this principle, by a judicious redistribution of the funds already possessed by the Church, and by entrusting the management of those funds to the congregations, the Church may yet make up its lee-way.

DEPUTIES OF THE THREE DENOMINATIONS.

The Annual Meeting of the Deputies of the several congregations of Protestant Dissenters of the three denominations—Presbyterian, Independent, and Baptist—appointed to protect their civil rights, was held on Wednesday, at the Guildhall Tavern. S. M. Peto, Esq., M.P., was in the chair, supported by Apsley Pellatt, Esq., J. Remington Mills, Esq., Mr. Alderman Wire, Mr. Deputy Peto, and others.

The Secretary then read the report of the committee for the past year, which was very voluminous, and of which the following is an abstract:—"It stated that greater success than usual had attended the labours of the Nonconformists, and that they were more fully represented in Parliament. For that result they were under great obligations to their friends in the House of Commons, for their highly valuable assistance, not only in publicly expounding their principles, and in supporting good measures, but in accompanying deputations to her Majesty's Government, and thus securing that attention to their wishes which Parliamentary influence could at all times legitimately command. With respect to the Dissenters' Marriage Bill it said, that a deputation from the committee, accompanied by deputations from the Congregational and Baptist Unions, and by eight members of Parliament, including the chairman, Mr. Peto, and the deputy-chairman, Mr. Apsley Pellatt, obtained an interview on the subject of the Bill with Lord Palmerston, her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Home Department, and requested that the measure might be taken up by the Government. After the contents of the proposed Bill had been read and explained to his Lordship, he expressed his willingness to forward the measure, and requested that a copy of the Bill with explanations might be sent to him. They had reason to believe that all their views would be embodied in the forthcoming Bill of the Government, and would embrace the following provisions:—

'No notice of marriage to be read or published before poor-law guardians, or to be transmitted to the clerk of such guardians. Notice of marriage by license not to be suspended in the office of the superintendent registrar. License to marry to be granted on oath or declaration of one of the parties intending to marry. In case of marriage by license, notice of marriage to be given to the superintendent registrar of only one district. In cases of marriage by license, certificates of the notice thereof may be given by the superintendent registrar after the expiration of twenty-four hours after the entry of the notice (unless the marriage be forbidden), and thereupon the marriage may be solemnized. Form of license to marry. Mode of solemnizing a marriage in a place used for religious worship. Proof of the observance of this Act not necessary to the validity of marriage. Penalty on making false oath or giving false notices. Provisions as to existing Acts.' The committee fully approved of the objects of the Places of Public Worship Registration Bill, introduced last session, but still they considered that the measure might be materially improved. They accordingly corrected the Bill, and submitted it, when altered, to be settled on their behalf. A deputation from the committee, headed by the chairman and two deputy chairmen, waited on Lord Palmerston, and explained to his lordship the nature of their proposed amendments, who expressed himself satisfied therewith. The Unitarians also gave notice of the introduction of amendments to the Bill, in furtherance of their particular views, to some of which the Registrar-General would not submit. The result was, that her Majesty's Government were unwilling to proceed with the measure in opposition to the views of the Unitarians. Some members of the House, the friends of your committee, endeavoured to negotiate an arrangement with them, but failed in the attempt. The Unitarians procured an adjournment of the Bill from time to time; and Lord John Russell, with whom they had communicated, moved at the end

of the session that it be read that day six months. As the law at present exists, it is doubtful whether any Dissenting place of worship can be legally registered since the passing of the Act, and which is necessary to its obtaining a license for marriage therein. The report next adverted to the Government measure for the promotion of education in the cities and boroughs of England, introduced by Lord John Russell into the House of Commons in April last, by which it was proposed to empower the municipal councils to make a compulsory school-rate, the management of the schools being under the direction of Government. They had referred the bill to a committee, and eventually adopted a series of resolutions condemning the bill.

"A deputation had waited upon Lord Aberdeen, as the head of Her Majesty's Government, and stated their objections to the measure, and the Committee were happy to be able to say, that, owing to the repugnance to the Bill which was manifested in various quarters, it was wisely abandoned by its authors. They could not, however, fail to express their deep regret that the annual vote to the Committee of Privy Council, which was increased to £200,000, should have been passed through the House of Commons without discussion, and without any inquiry as to the principle and mode of its distribution. The Report congratulated the Deputies on the successful introduction, by Mr. A. Pellatt, of a clause into the Charitable Trusts Bill, which exempted from its operation any building registered as a place of meeting for religious worship. As regarded the question of the Mortmain Laws, they were anxious to see the recommendation of the committee of 1852 carried out—viz., that there should be a complete exemption from all restraints upon alienation in favour of sites of land to be used for religious edifices, whether in connexion with the Established Church, or any other religious community, or to be used for hospitals, cemeteries, museums, or places of education; but, as that recommendation would involve questions relative to the Roman Catholics, it would form a great entanglement, and a bill introduced by any independent member would have but a small chance of making progress while the larger subject was in an unsettled state. After alluding to the different divisions that had taken place in the House of Commons in the last session on the subject of Church-rates, the Report proceeds to refer to the final decision of the House of Lords on the Braintree Church-rate case, and to the deputation which recently waited upon Lord Aberdeen on the subject, who stated that the subject had been under the consideration of her Majesty's Government, and that they would introduce a bill thereon early in the ensuing session, but he could not at present state the plan that would be recommended, because it had not then been settled by the Cabinet. The Report concluded by summing up what the committee had been enabled to do during the last session at a comparatively small expense, and by stating that they had been preparing for the ensuing meeting of Parliament."

The Chairman, in moving the adoption and printing of the Report, referred to the recent Census Returns on Religious Worship, which deserved the careful consideration of every Nonconformist. The effects and use of it could not be over-estimated. In speaking of the subjects in the Report he thought they should not look so much to the past as to what should be done for the future; and that, as regarded Church-rates, he hoped and trusted that that long-voiced question would soon be brought to a settlement. He, however, believed that no settlement would be satisfactory until they obtained their total abolition, and he trusted that their friends would be determined to make no concession. As regarded the right of Nonconformists to deal with Church property; upon that point he would not yield or give way, as he considered, as national property, that it was as much belonging to him as to any other man in the country. In the next session of Parliament, when the discussion should come on, he hoped Mr. Cobden would see the erroneous views he had entertained on the Voluntary principle. He had made one speech on the subject—a speech that had given him (Mr. Peto) more pain than he ever remembered, which was unworthy of his friend, and, as the head of the Voluntary system, showed his lamentable ignorance. Why, the Voluntary system was the very life-blood of the Church Establishment. He found that 2,000 churches had been built since 1831; and 800 of that number were built on the Voluntary principle. That was the best answer to give to their opponents, and they could satisfactorily point to them, and say, "You may here see what has been done on the Voluntary principle." If that was the arena for discussion, he could throw back the doubts of Mr. Cobden, and show satisfactorily that the country was indebted for all its education to that principle. He could show by the opening speech of Lord John Russell last session, that he admitted that the children's pence subscribed for the purposes of education amounted to half a million annually, and that was a sum that was by no means to be sneered at. They believed their principles were based on truth, and were the only principles, if carried out, that would benefit the country. They were determined to assert those principles on all occasions as worthy of their country, and worthy of themselves. He could not avoid alluding to the continued attempts of the Church to get possession of the education of the colonies, and the conduct of the Governor of one of them had been such, that one of his friends would feel it to be his duty to bring it before the House of Commons in the coming session. In conclusion, he (Mr. Peto) said he was identified with them in principles which had his hearty concurrence; and having done their best in their day to serve their generation, he was not the man to stand still, to allow those principles to be trodden under foot, nor would he fail to assert them whenever it was required. (The hon. member sat down amid great cheering.)

Mr. Alderman Wire, in seconding the motion, con-

gratulated the meeting on the appointment of so excellent a man for their chairman as Mr. Peto. He then referred to the marriage law, which had been so imperfectly arranged that it had turned persons away from the chapel to the church; and they had hitherto not had the full benefit of it, through the large amount of fees. Their excellent chairman would take an early opportunity in Parliament to rectify that defect, and he was sure that the united voice of the whole body of Nonconformists would go with him in his exertions until they were put on a full and complete equality with the Church in this respect. There was also the law of Mortmain, which he thought they would do well to bring again under the consideration of Parliament in the next session.

Mr. A. Pellatt, after some introductory remarks, said there was one matter of some importance which came before the House of Commons that they could not well bring into their report. In the estimates there was set down the sum of £16,000 for repairing Maynooth College. Himself and friends had opposed any such grant, and the result was, that it was struck out of the estimates. Subsequently, the Roman Catholic party applied to have that item restored to the estimates, but the Government refused to do so. On the question of the Succession Duties Bill he had taken action with the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who had exempted the clergy under the Bill, as he said, on the same principle as the judges, who were paid for their services. He thought the cases were different; for if they taxed the advowson when it appeared in the market for sale, they ought, on the same principle, to tax the owners of that advowson. In many cases that property was purchased in the market for a son, and therefore, on that ground, the clergy could not be put in the same position as the judges. He at length succeeded in getting from Mr. Gladstone a promise that next session he would introduce a Bill by which clergymen should be taxed under the Succession Act.

The Chairman then put the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

The Secretary then read the financial statement, which was received.

Mr. Deputy Peto moved, and Mr. Clarke seconded, that a copy of the Report of the Committee be sent to the ministers and deacons of the unrepresented congregations within twelve miles of London, and to ask their assistance.

Mr. Morley moved, and Mr. Cooke Evans seconded, a vote of thanks to the Chairman, Deputy-Chairman, and Treasurer, for their services during the past year, which was carried.

Mr. Williams moved, and Mr. Box seconded the following:—"That the thanks of the meeting be given to the Committee for their services during the past year, and that they be requested to continue in office until a new Committee is appointed." He hoped, he said, to live long enough to see carried triumphantly the principles they had so long advocated.

A vote of thanks was then passed to Mr. Peto, for his conduct in the chair, which the hon. gentleman suitably acknowledged, and the business terminated.

THE VICARAGE OF CREDITON.—The governors, who have the choosing of the vicar of this parish, have had an arduous task. There were at first 250 candidates, the greater part residing in distant counties. At length they were reduced to seven. For seven successive Sundays the seven candidates in rotation read prayers, the governors being present upon each occasion. The excitement in the parish during the time was intense. Placards bearing the names of several of the reverend gentlemen, with "Vote for ——" were freely circulated. At length the ordeal of preaching having been gone through, the governors met a few days since in order to come to a final election. After a somewhat protracted sitting, the choice fell on the Rev. C. Smith, of Pendlebury, near Manchester. The living is worth upwards of £600 a-year, and is about eight miles from Exeter.

CONVOCAATION.—According to the *Daily News*, the Earl of Aberdeen, in opposition to the wishes of the Archbishop of Canterbury, and under the influence of the Bishop of Oxford, has permitted Convocation to discuss for "one day" business not proposed by the Crown, being certain resolutions proceeding from the bishop.

CHURCH-RATES AT SOUTHAMPTON.—In the parish of All Saints in this town, as we learn from the *Hants Independent*, a vestry meeting was held on Thursday last, at which a Church-rate of threepence in the pound was proposed. Mr. Broad moved, as an amendment, "That in consequence of a large amount of arrears being due from members of the Established Church, in the parish of All Saints, for previous Church-rates, this vestry deems it inexpedient to make any new Church-rate until those arrears have been collected." The amendment was carried by ten votes to four. One of the churchwardens demanded a poll, but the chairman (the curate) advised him to withdraw the motion, to which he consented.

A CHURCH-RATE SEIZURE AND ITS RESULT.—On Thursday, the 19th inst., the Churchwardens of the parish of St. Peter's, Carmarthen, through the agency of the police, took forcible possession of a quantity of barley, the property of James Bagnall, Esq., under a warrant of distress, and was removed for sale the following Tuesday. The persons employed in removing the barley, from Mr. Bagnall's stores, took a handcart, the property of John Lewis, Esq., Alderman, without his permission. Messrs. Lewis and Sons were informed of the fact, and met the crowd before the spoil had reached the market-place. Mr. Lewis at once demanded his cart. When the crowd understood how the case stood, they reclaimed the cart, leaving its contents very unceremoniously in the street. Every means was now used to get a cart to convey the corn to the market-place, but all efforts proved

useless; it was therefore decided on effecting the sale on the spot where the cart was upset. The auctioneer is a publican in the town, and a clerk in a neighbouring parish. The friends of the Church had appointed two of their number to bid for the corn, in case there should be no bidders. But when those gentlemen found the crowd was so large, and the feeling so decided, they departed, leaving the spoil in the hands of a clerk of one of the churchwardens, who was bidder and purchaser, at 3s. 4d. per bushel. By this time, the owner of the sacks made his appearance, and demanded his property, and there being no sign that his request would be granted, he ripped one of the sacks with his knife from top to bottom. The superintendent of police wished to interfere, but the owner replied that he had a right to do what he liked with his own property. The crowd was very large, and it is reported that the magistrates were consulted as to the propriety of calling out the military, but they replied in the negative, because there was no violation of law on the part of the crowd. Another difficulty now arose, as to where the barley should be removed, because there was no cart to convey, nor house to receive it. But it was ultimately taken to the station-house, at half-past nine o'clock at night, by a large body of police, amidst the loud shouts of the crowd, who had remained upwards of seven hours to witness the proceedings and to know the result. —From a Correspondent.

Religious and Educational Intelligence.

LECTURES TO THE WORKING CLASSES.—We mentioned in our last number, that the Rev. J. P. Chown had just concluded a very successful course of lectures to the working classes of Bradford, on popular topics, at the Mechanics' Institute. The topics included, the following:—"Music," "The Poetry of the Heavens," "Steam the Civilizer," "Poetry of the Earth," "Hungary and Kossuth," "The Philosophy of every day life," "The Working Classes, their past, present, and future," &c. The chair has been occupied by some of the most influential gentlemen of the town of all religions, from the mayor downwards. "It is gratifying to be able to state (says the *Bradford Observer*) that the lectures, with scarcely an exception, have been numerously attended, and that the working classes generally have shown their appreciation of these disinterested efforts for their improvement. From a statement which appears in our advertising columns, we learn that the aggregate number of persons who paid for admission to the lectures (twelve in number), was 7,644, and that one lecture was delivered to no fewer than 2,383 persons, while the largest number present on any one night was 989. After paying all expenses, a surplus is left for the infirmity of £8 16s. 4d." This result is highly satisfactory, and will, we trust, act as a stimulus to earnest Christians, who have a great field of usefulness in the dense populations by which they may be surrounded. The example of Bradford is, we are glad to find, being followed at Halifax, where a similar course of lectures has been commenced.

THE PEOPLE'S EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTE, SOUTHWARK.—The first of a course of lectures in connexion with this society was delivered on Thursday evening, by R. Forsaith, Esq., on "Homes in the East," in the School-room, Chapel-place, Great Suffolk-street. The lecturer interspersed anecdote and illustration so adroitly with information respecting the various habits and manners of the people of the East, as to awaken the interest and elicit the warm applause of his audience. It must have been very gratifying to the promoters of the society to observe the attendance of so large a proportion of the class for whose benefit it has been established. Under the presidency of Apsley Pellatt, Esq., M.P. for Southwark, there is little doubt it will be very useful to the neighbourhood.

WOODBRIDGE.—At the annual social meeting of the church and congregation connected with Quay Meeting in the above town, it was stated that the subscriptions for various purposes during the year amounted to £448 6s. 1d. After the account had been passed, an elegant purse, containing twenty sovereigns, was presented to the Rev. F. B. Brown, pastor of the church, as an expression of the sympathy of his friends. Subsequently, Mr. Brown, on behalf of the friends assembled, presented the Rev. D. Griffith, missionary from Madagascar, with two volumes of "Kitto's Cyclopaedia of Biblical Literature," as a token of their esteem and sympathy, and a help to him in his task of translating the Scriptures into the language of that island.

HANOVER CHAPEL, PECKHAM.—The Rev. Robert Wye Betts has received and accepted the cordial and all but unanimous invitation of the church and congregation to become their pastor, as the successor of the late venerated Dr. Collyer. On Friday evening last, the meeting of the church and congregation was held. About 600 persons were present, among whom there were but three negative votes.

THE REV. B. GRANT AND MR. COOPER.—On Thursday evening, Jan. 26th, a lecture on "Robert Cooper and his Perversions of Scripture," was delivered by the Rev. Brewin Grant, B.A., in the Hall of the Mechanics' Institution, Rotherham, to a crowded audience. Mr. Cooper has been lecturing in Rotherham several times on Secularism, and has placarded the name of the Rev. Brewin Grant in large type to attract attention; it was, therefore, thought desirable that Mr. Grant should be invited to reply. The lecture was principally confined to the "Infidel's Text-Book," published by Mr. Cooper, which was fully and ably exposed. After the lecture discussion was allowed, but confined to the subject of the lecture. Several of the followers of Mr. Cooper were present—none ventured to say a word in his favour. Mr. Grant was asked if he would meet Mr. Cooper on "The Bible," which he answered in the negative, for

Mr. Cooper's ignorance of the Bible, and wilful misrepresentations of it, was such, that it would be a disgrace to discuss it with him; but he would first meet Mr. Cooper on his "Infidel's Text-Book," which contains his arguments against the Bible, and then, if an audience would afterwards vote that Mr. Cooper was a competent person to discuss the Bible with him, he would do so. The meeting then closed with votes of thanks to the Lecturer and Chairman. —From a Correspondent.

THE REV. CHARLES SHAKESPEARE, formerly of St. Aidan's Episcopal College, and of Edinburgh, has accepted the charge of the congregation worshipping in the chapel on the estate of S. M. Peto, Esq., M.P., Somerleyton, Suffolk, and entered on his duties January 22nd.

BRECON INDEPENDENT COLLEGE.—On Tuesday evening, the 24th inst., a meeting was held by the students of the above institution, at the College-house, occasioned by the departure of one of their number, Mr. Griffith John, who has recently joined the London Missionary Society, and is about pursuing his studies elsewhere, before embarking for a foreign field of labour. J. Powell, Esq., Treasurer of the College, occupied the chair, and after addresses from several of the students, a very handsome writing-desk was presented to Mr. John by his fellow-students, as a token of the respect and affection which they bear him. Mr. John acknowledged the kindness of his beloved companions, and gave an account of his past religious history, which was commenced at the early age of eight years; the origin of his missionary spirit he attributed to the reading of the "History of Madagascar," and the "Life of John Williams."

EBBW VALE IRON WORKS, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—An interesting series of services were held on the 16th and 17th instant, in order to recognise Mr. J. H. Hill, of Pontypool College, as the pastor of the Baptist church, Briery Hill, Ebbw Vale. On the evening of the 16th, Messrs. Davies of Trefforest, and Williams of Nantyglo, preached, the former in English and the latter in Welsh. At ten o'clock on the following day, the Classical Tutor of Pontypool College, delivered a discourse "On the Nature of a Christian Church," and he was followed by the President of the College, who affectionately addressed Mr. Hill. In the afternoon, Mr. T. Davies, of Merthyr, described the duties of the church towards its new pastor; and in the evening, Mr. Thomas, of Bassaleg, preached in Welsh, and the President of the College wound up the services of the day by delivering an affecting sermon on the "spirits of the just made perfect."

Correspondence.

HIGH HOLBORN: TITHES AND TROUBLES!

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

Jan. 23, 1854.

SIR,—Your columns have heretofore described the doings of the clergy in this locality, in the matter of what they are pleased to designate "Tithes."

When we had the misfortune (?) to lose the successor of the Rev. Gilbert Beresford, who kept up a tithe crusade for many years, we thought we might bid adieu to both claim and claimant: but no such luck, it seems, awaited us; for the present Rector, eschewing all such means of supporting "the Church," it would appear that the patron, determined to keep up the value of the living, has turned over the parishioners of St. Andrew's Holborn to two district incumbents, to be "dealt with according to (his) law."

After the preliminary citations and "hearings"—some of the recusants declining to hear—the warrants of distress have been entrusted to the police to put in force. Accordingly, accompanied by a nondescript biped, they have gone from house to house, using entreaties followed by threats: and in one case, although permission was given to seize—the claim being only some 30s.—"a man in possession" has been left. I am not learned in matters of clerical coercion, but I think this is going rather too far.

At all events, being threatened with a similar visitor, I calculate if such an intruder is palmed upon me, I shall give him the choice of taking what the parsons are determined to have, or that of a "heave offering;" for I cannot conceive, after a man has consented to endure "the spoiling of his goods," that the alternative of "violating the sanctity of his dwelling" can be legally resorted to, unless to increase the odium of the proceeding at the risk of having the mode of executing the distraint called in question.

I am, Sir, yours very truly,

RECUSATIONIS.

THE EDUCATIONAL CONTROVERSY.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

Norwich, Jan. 30, 1854.

DEAR SIR,—Having read with great interest the article in last week's *Nonconformist* on Education, will you allow me to ask you one or two questions, which may prompt to a still farther explanation of your views, and thus allow your readers a better opportunity of coming to a right conclusion on this most difficult of all subjects? Do you deem it essential that religion (by this I mean doctrine) should be included in that scheme of education provided for the masses? And if not, why may not knowledge be as efficiently imparted, and the system itself as well sustained, as it now is by the Schools of Design? We hear of no opposition to these schools by the Voluntaries. Do you condemn these institutions because furnished for the people and not by them, and if you had the power, would you shut them up as being based on a wrong foundation? Hoping to elicit a reply on that subject, which is occupying the minds of a large portion of the thinking people of this country; and with every cordial wish for your further success, and the accomplishment of those truths which it is your happiness, both in and out of Parliament, to advocate, allow me to remain,

Yours truly,

AN EAST-ANGLIAN.

[Our objections to a public provision for education was based upon other than religious grounds. We think the case sufficiently complete without having recourse to arguments founded upon religion. The illustration our correspondent advances is not a happy one; The unfavourable influence of

Government grants upon Schools of Design has been often exposed by Voluntaries. Experience has supported their views; for we find that in many towns Schools of Designs have been established on the self-supporting principle, and that they have so much increased and prospered, as to compete successfully with those institutions which are assisted with Government grants. It was only a few weeks ago an exhibition of the two schools took place at Gore House, to the great credit of the voluntary institutions.]

WHY IS WELSH NONCONFORMITY UNREPRESENTED IN PARLIAMENT.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

Jan. 30, 1854.

SIR,—In reference to the letter of "A Welshman" on this subject in your last number, I beg to inform him, and all who agree with him, that the *Vote by Ballot Society* will gratefully receive any information that can be given as to the use of the election screw in Wales by the noblemen and landed proprietors to whom he refers; for in the ballot controversy, as in all others, there is no logic like the logic of facts.

Let me remind "A Welshman," and all who think that "without the ballot, Wales, notwithstanding its Dissent, must be represented by men who neither understand nor respect the principles of the people," that they cannot do better than strengthen the hands of the Ballot Society by enrolling themselves amongst its members. They will never get the ballot without a systematic agitation, which the society is organised to lead and direct.

I am happy to inform "A Welshman" that the society is taking active measures to procure a pledge for the ballot from the candidate for the borough of Brecon.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

THE SECRETARY.

Ballot Society's Offices, 5, Guildhall Chambers,
Basinghall-street, London.

THE LONDON CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL BUILDING SOCIETY.

A *soiree*, in connexion with the above society, was held last evening, at the Congregational Library. The attendance was large, the room being quite filled. An hour having been occupied in the partaking of refreshments,

Eusebius Smith, Esq., one of the Treasurers of the Society, was called upon to preside, and the proceedings were immediately commenced with a devotional service. The Rev. Charles Gilbert announced the hymn, and the Rev. Thomas James implored the Divine blessing.

The Chairman then briefly sketched the progress of the Society during the five years of its existence. He found in looking over the accounts of the Society, that during the five years of its existence, the Committee had received little short of £20,000 for the carrying out of the object in view; but it ought to be generally known that this sum had been contributed by less than twenty individuals. (Hear, hear.) He could not but believe, however, that there were hundreds of others equally desirous to advance the cause of Christ, and who only needed to have the claims of the Society placed fully before them to insure a speedy and hearty response. If the entire body of the Congregationalists were to unite in one common effort for so good an object, what noble things might be achieved.

The Rev. Thomas Davies, one of the Secretaries, then read the report, which stated that the Society, during the five years of its existence, had built, or helped to build, or preserved, no fewer than thirteen places of worship.

Of these, nine are now opened for public worship, and four are in process of erection. The chapels which have been completed and opened are Horbury, Haverstock-hill, City-road, Bedford New Town, New College, Portland, Southgate-road, Notting-dale Potteries, and Sydenham chapels. The history of all these has been, thus far, one of encouraging progress; in nearly all of them numerous congregations have been gathered, churches have been formed, schools established, and various agencies of Christian philanthropy have been put into operation. Upon a rough but moderate computation, it may be estimated that from 5,000 to 6,000 persons have the Gospel preached to them every Sabbath; that many hundreds of persons are associated in Christian fellowship; that from 1,600 to 1,800 children receive instruction in Sabbath-schools; and that manifold efforts and contributions are made for the furtherance of the kingdom of Christ at home and abroad, more or less through the instrumentality of this Society.

Nor is the good work which is thus carried on confined to this Society. Leaving out of view what is done by Christians of other denominations, it may safely be said, that, among Congregationalists, the work of chapel-building in London has never been carried on to the same extent as during the past five years. Within that time, over and above the operations of this Society, eight large and handsome chapels have been erected at an expense of not less than £52,000. The aggregate amount which has been thus expended, inclusive of the operations of this Society, and of those whom it has aided, cannot be less than £80,000. Many of the congregations of London have thus shown, that it is a comparatively easy thing for them to contribute from five to ten thousand pounds for the erection of a chapel for their own convenience.

It is generally known, that the Census of 1851 was, by direction of the Government, made to include the places of worship in England and Wales, and the amount of accommodation which they afford. The results have just been given to the public in a Report, which abounds in facts and statements of the deepest interest and importance. The details which are furnished respecting London prove, in the most conclusive manner, the urgent necessity which exists for such efforts as are made by this Society, while they strikingly corroborate the statements which have been put forth in its publications. In our Report for 1851 it was stated, that the accommodation for public worship provided in the metropolis for two millions and a quarter of people did not amount to seven hundred thousand. In the Census Report the population is given as 2,362,236, and the number of sittings in all places of worship as 713,561. Allowing for the different limits assigned to the metropolis, it appears that the estimate of accommodation which we had made was rather above the truth than below it; and that the destitution of London is really greater than we had ventured

to declare. The degree of this destitution will appear yet more strikingly, if London be compared, in this respect, with the country at large, or with its several districts. Taking England and Wales as a whole, inclusive of London, there are sittings for fifty-seven persons out of every hundred. Taking England and Wales, exclusive of London, there are sittings for sixty-two persons out of every hundred; while in London itself, the metropolis of the country, there are sittings for only thirty persons out of every hundred. Thus it appears, that the amount of accommodation which is provided in London is in the proportion of less than half what is provided for the rest of the country.

The great manufacturing county of York has a population of 1,789,047, with sittings in its places of worship for 1,081,826; while London, with a population of 2,362,236, has sittings for only 713,561. In other words, with a population exceeding that of Yorkshire by one-third, its accommodation for public worship is less by one third. So that this great county, notwithstanding its large towns and manufacturing districts, has, in proportion to its population, more than twice the provision for public worship that exists in London.

In the rural districts, notwithstanding their supposed comparative ignorance and poverty, out of every thousand of the population seven hundred may, if they will, be assembled at one time in the houses of God; while, in the more wealthy and civilised metropolis, seven hundred out of every thousand could not, if they would, find a place, at one time, in the sanctuary.

It is true that the large towns are generally the most inadequately supplied with places of worship, but London is lowest on the list. There is, indeed, one town, and only one, that seems to contest the low position with London, and that is Birmingham. But even Birmingham is far better off than Marylebone, or the Tower Hamlets, or Lambeth. So that, upon the whole, it appears that this great and proud metropolis, the head-quarters and chief support of all our religious societies, has retained for itself the melancholy distinction of being worse provided with the means of religious instruction and public worship than any other town or county of England.

Nor is the destitution of London confined to particular districts. It prevails in those which we have been accustomed to regard as most favoured, almost as much as in those which have been accounted the most abandoned. Thus, the evangelical district of Islington has a population of 95,329, with church and chapel accommodation for only 27,652. Kensington, with a population of 120,000, has sittings for only 31,556. Marylebone provides places of worship for 39,565, out of a population of 157,696. Chelsea has 56,538 inhabitants, and only 16,279 sittings; while Lambeth, which stretches to Brixton and Norwood, has a population of 139,325, with church and chapel accommodation for only 34,818. In the other districts, excepting only the City, the figures bear a similar proportion.

It would be vain to add comment to these impressive facts. We will only ask and pray that the Christians of London may ponder them in their hearts, and consider whether they will be able to answer for it to their consciences and their Lord, if they allow such a state of things to continue any longer. The barren mountain districts of Wales and Scotland, nay, the islands of the West Indies and those of Polynesia, are all better, far better provided with the preaching of the Gospel than is this the capital of Christendom, and the chief city of the world. It is well, indeed, that the Christian church should send forth its missionaries "into all the world to preach the Gospel to every creature;" but it is not well that they should forget to "begin at Jerusalem."

Opportunities for the erection of chapels upon suitable sites have been, and still are, presented to the Committee, which they are prevented from embracing for want of funds. At the present time they hold in their possession three freehold sites, upon one of which it is most desirable that they should speedily commence building.

They cherish the hope that it will be enough to make known the necessities and the opportunities of the Society to secure such an amount of aid as shall bear some proportion to the claims of the object, and the capabilities of the Christian friends to whom they appeal.

The Rev. W. S. Edwards offered some remarks on the topic:—"The results of past efforts in chapel extension, a stimulus and encouragement to future and increased exertion." He referred especially to the success of the place with which he was connected—City-road Chapel. He might mention the fact, that from the December of 1851, to December, 1852, they received into the church 102 members; and from December, 1852, to December, 1853, 103. Of the 102, only 32 came from other churches, and of the 103, but 34 came from other churches. (Hear, hear.) Surely this was an interesting fact, and such as might well constitute a ground of encouragement to chapel building in similar localities. (Hear, hear.) School-rooms, moreover, had been erected at a cost of about £1,200, which had all been paid, with the exception of some £120. Then they had formed an efficient Christian Instruction Society, and a sum of about £900 had been collected for charitable and religious purposes in addition. The Christian Instruction Society agents, it might be observed, had proved exceedingly useful. They had opened a little chapel for the accommodation of that very lowest class of people who would not enter the more elegant building; and from this effort, also, several persons had been added to the church. He had great hope, that these labours of the friends from his own place would result in the gathering of a second Independent church in that neighbourhood. (Hear, hear.)

The Rev. George Smith spoke of the great interest which he felt in the prosperity of the London Congregational Chapel Building Society, as well as that kindred institution, the Chapel Building Society for England. Looking at this chapel-building movement in reference to both Home and Foreign Missions—for they could not be separated—he considered it to be most valuable and important; and he could not doubt, that during the coming year its progress would be even more rapid and gratifying than it had been up to the present moment. (Cheers.)

The Rev. H. J. Gamble was the next speaker; his text—"The solemn duty of the churches of London to provide increased chapel accommodation among the destitute and increasing population by which they are

surrounded." In the course of his remarks, he said:—"Nothing is easier than to denounce in broad and general terms Church Establishments. We may easily say very severe things about them; and if persons choose to do this, why let them do it. 'He that hath a dream, let him tell a dream;' if his dream shall happen to be a vision of the Millennium that is speedily to take place when the Church is separated from the State, we will listen to what he says, and applaud it; but we want more than dreamers; we want workers—we want men who shall be so convinced of the power of the Voluntary principle, and its capability for effecting all that is requisite for the spread of religion, that they shall enter heart and hand into this great work. (Cheers.) I would ask any gentleman now present, whether the first Government Bill for Education was thrown out of the House of Commons, and at a subsequent period when a second Bill was introduced but withdrawn—whether this was the result merely of eloquent speeches or able articles? Was it not rather because it had been proved to a demonstration, that there was throughout the country an abundance of school-houses supplying the education which that class required for whom the Bill was intended to provide. (Hear, hear.) And so in reference to Scotland. How was it that our brethren of the Free Church acted? Did they content themselves with simply protesting against the measure of the Government? Did they content themselves with simply writing eloquent articles and making eloquent speeches against the Church Establishment? Not so. They set to work, they contributed of their money, they gave of their time, they employed their utmost energies, and the result is—as any one who goes to Scotland may see—that, both in the towns and villages, noble and beautiful buildings have arisen, which seem to look down reproachfully on the tomb of that great man, Dr. Chalmers, as if ashamed that, after so much had been done by its means, he died protesting against the Voluntary principle. (Cheers.)

The Rev. John Stoughton then addressed the meeting on "the relation of chapel building to the general advancement of religion."

The Rev. Charles Gilbert having intimated that collecting cards had been provided for those ladies and others who were willing to render their aid towards the progress of the Society,

Mr. Edward Swaine urged the importance of care in the style of architecture, and in the size of the buildings to be hereafter erected; they ought not, he submitted, to be excessively ornamental, nor very large. With respect to the condition of London, as it respected chapel and church accommodation, he was not disposed to take too gloomy a view of the matter; and he thought it should be remembered, in comparing London with the provincial towns and districts, that other agencies, such as the City Mission and Christian Instruction Society, were at work in the metropolis, and which the provinces did not possess. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Swaine further observed, in relation to what Mr. Gamble had said about dreamers, that he demurred to the notion which that gentleman seemed to entertain, that the advocates of anti state-church principles were more chimerical and less practical than other people. It should not be forgotten, that the world had been greatly indebted to such dreamers, and doubtless, also, had this Chapel Building Society.

The Rev. Dr. Tidman expressed the cordial attachment which he felt to the society whose interests they were met to promote, because he was certain that its progress would tend very materially to the advancement of all kindred objects and Christian missions both home and foreign. (Hear, hear.) With reference to the style of architecture, he very warmly commended the taste and wisdom hitherto displayed by the committee, and trusted that no views of parsimony or simplicity would induce them to depart from the wise and judicious course on which they had entered. (Hear.)

Mr. Davies explained, that during the last few years the increase of the population of the metropolis had not been greater than the increase of the church and chapel accommodation. In 1805, it was computed that there were sittings for about 1 in 15; it now appeared that there was accommodation for 1 in 5; so that the case was far from hopeless, as at one time some people were almost disposed to consider it.

The Rev. Thomas James then moved, and the Rev. E. Mantering seconded, a cordial vote of thanks to the Chair, which was carried by acclamation; and Mr. Smith having returned thanks, the meeting closed with the Doxology and Benediction.

THE EDUCATION QUESTION.

The great educational meeting at Edinburgh, postponed on account of the illness of Lord Panmure, was held on Wednesday; his Lordship presiding. Among those who took part in the proceedings, were the Rev. Dr. Alexander, Mr. R. Macfarlane, Mr. Cowan M.P., Dr. G. Wilson, Mr. Dunlop, M.P., the Rev. Dr. Harper, the Rev. Dr. Guthrie, and Dr. Cunningham. "Gentlemen," said the chairman in his opening speech, "it is impossible that the Established Church can any longer retain, over the parochial schools, the exclusive domination which, for many years past, she has exercised. I am not one of those" continued his lordship, "who cry down the parish schools of this country as never having done good in their day and generation. On the contrary, I am here, as one publicly to acknowledge that Scotland owes a deep debt of gratitude, in the past, to the parochial schools of our country, and to the parochial teachers, with all the disadvantages under which they have laboured. But their day is past. The country demands more than they can give, and the country demands it in a shape in which it is not in their power to give it. (Applause.) And, therefore, I say, the time has come, when one of the two courses must be taken with them; either the hand of reform must be laid upon them in time,

or else they must be suffered to float untouched, uncared for, unamended, down the stream of time and of decay. Now, of these two courses, I infinitely prefer the former." He wanted to see the status of the schoolmaster raised his income improved, and the tests by which he is now bound entirely removed, and he would emancipate him from that exclusively clerical control to which he has been too long, and is now, too unnecessarily subject, (Applause.) And these reforms completed, why, what remained but to change the name of Parochial to National. "I say at once for myself," said the noble chairman, "and I believe I say it for the great majority of the people of this country, that to the exclusive charge of the clergy I will not deliver the education of the people." (Cheers.) At the same time, his lordship repelled the charge, "that they were prepared to set their hands and seals to a scheme of National Education in the schools, of which religion is to be ignored." "I never can conceive," he said, "that any Government will ever be guilty of sanctioning a scheme of education without religion." The resolutions agreed to stated the importance of education for every child, and the inefficiency of the present system in Scotland; suggesting a higher standard, more school-houses, and additional funds, to be raised by rates. "No system of education," said one resolution, "which is sectarian or exclusive, or which operates by means of Privy Council grants to different churches or associations, can be said to be efficient: to be really so, the system must be national, and not denominational; and under such a system the best-qualified teachers should be eligible without regard to sect or party." "While it is the declared opinion of the National Education Association, adhered to by the members now present, that the management of the schools, the appointment and removal of schoolmasters, the controul over the expenditure, and such of the powers presently vested by law in the heritors and presbyteries of the Established Church as are necessary for the conduct of the new system, should be vested in committees elected by the heritors and other contributors, and parents having children at the schools; yet inasmuch as many, who are zealous in the same cause, hold different views on some of these points, this meeting are of opinion that it is the duty of all the friends of a comprehensive and unsectarian system of national education, reserving all questions of detail, to unite at the present stage in urging her Majesty's Government to introduce a satisfactory measure on their own responsibility." In seconding this resolution, Dr. Guthrie explained its purport—"Don't understand the resolution as proposing that the Government shall exclude religion from the school; don't fancy that the Government is to say to the teacher, You shan't teach religion. I say, if that were in the resolution, I would not be a member of this association. That which we propose is this, that Government shall not legislate in the matter of religion at all. I say, if certain gentlemen on the platform would resist the Legislature or the Government putting in the Bible, I would resist to the death the Legislature or the Government keeping out the Bible. What we mean is this—not that the Government should say, You shan't teach religion in the school, but that the Government shall leave the heritors, the ratepayers, the parents, and the heads of families, to manage the whole of these matters, in the room of the old-established presbyteries and the heritors of the parish."—This view was greatly applauded by the meeting.

Dr. Candlish, who seconded the third resolution, said he did not care whether religion was put in the Bill or not, for he was sure it would be in the school. "I don't understand the resolution," he said, "as proposing that the Government shall exclude religion from the school; don't fancy that the Government is to say to the teacher, 'You shan't teach religion.' I say, if that were in the resolution, I would not be a member of this association. That which we propose, is this: that Government shall not legislate in the matter of religion at all. (Applause.)

The Bishop of Hereford presided on Wednesday over a public meeting held by the Diocesan Board of Education in the College. The report showed that there are only fourteen parochial schools in the county of Hereford. About five per cent. of the population attend the schools. The teachers receive on an average only £25 a-year. There are 114 parishes without schools. Houses lie far apart in many districts, and that helps to prevent attendance. Archdeacon Freer said, he had been successful in establishing a mixed school for farmers' sons and the sons of labourers; but it is a mockery to talk of education to people ground down to such starving wages as 7s. or 8s., a week, with wheat at 12s. or 13s. a bushel. Archdeacon Waring stated that he had not succeeded in establishing a mixed school: he condemned the laity and clergy for allowing the poor to be brought up in a manner inconsistent with their temporal and eternal welfare. Earlier in the proceedings, Dr. Hampden attacked secular education; which, he said, often made the wickedly-disposed able to become more wicked; the great evil is, not ignorance, but moral depravity, and that cannot be counteracted by secular knowledge. If the State, therefore, gave grants only on condition that secular knowledge be imparted, they would do literally nothing to remove depravity.

At the annual *soiree* of the Burnley Church Literary Institution, on Thursday evening, Sir James Kaye Shuttleworth proposed as a resolution—

"That this meeting, observing the discussions which have recently occurred, both within the walls of Parliament and elsewhere, on the subject of national education, takes this opportunity to declare that, in the settlement of this great question, it is essential that the origin of the existing schools, and the voluntary efforts of religious communions, should be borne in mind."

On this resolution Sir James spoke at great length, observing, that from the speeches lately delivered at meetings in Manchester, the secular association had declared its readiness to recognise the existing schools belonging to the religious denominations, as well as their management by those denominations, provided that

certain hours were set apart for religious teaching, and that religious instruction was not forced upon any child; and that, upon these conditions, in fact, they were ready to support the schools for secular education by public rates. The association had, in reality, totally departed from the principles upon which it was originally founded. He contended that the system which the secular association was thus ready to support was no longer a secular system, but one of religious education, founded upon the traditions of the country, supported by voluntary exertions—religious communities—and to which the association were not only ready to apply the rates but give the sanction of the law. He urged that it was absolutely necessary that parties who had been so long opposed should now endeavour to see if, without sacrificing any cordial principle, they could not find some neutral ground upon which to unite, because the subject of national education must still be under discussion and pressing for a settlement in both Houses of Parliament, as far as related to Scotland; because, if during the coming spring a new bill was not passed, the salaries of schoolmasters in Scotland would, by a peculiarity of Scotch law, be very much diminished.

THE EXETER HALL LECTURES.

We have omitted for several weeks past to report the Tuesday evening lectures in connexion with the Christian Young Men's Association, because the topics of discourse seemed of less general interest than the character of the association would imply. Lectures on Romanism, Prophetic Interpretation, and Judaism, may be had at any time, either spoken or printed, and seem scarcely fitting food for the young, religious minds of London. The announcement of last Tuesday was, however, in every sense attractive—an hour's lecture by Dr. Vaughan (of Harrow) on the Life of Cicero; and another hour's by Mr. Binney, on Authorship: and, if disappointment was experienced, no blame was attributable to the committee.

—Except, perhaps, that they were mistaken in attributing to Dr. C. J. Vaughan the physical power of satisfying an Exeter-Hall audience. He might be seen, but certainly not heard beyond the first division of the hall. The consequences of this physiological inadequacy were soon unpleasantly evident. While as many as were within reach of the orator's voice listened with pleasure to an elegant dissertation on Cicero and his contemporaries, the Cataline conspiracy, and the civil war, an occasional cry of "Louder," "We can't hear a word," told of probably a couple of thousand under the most tantalizing of human conditions—outsiders at the play or feast for which they had paid. Still, there was no general interruption till the approach of the dial hands to nine o'clock warned of the lecturer's encroachment on the time of one who could be heard. The hour was reached and passed. Cries of "Louder," were mingled with cries of "Time," and bursts of ironical applause requested the unpopular orator to desist. Presently, "Binney! Binney!" became a distinct cry. The owner of that name reared his commanding figure, and exclaimed, with ready wit, "Gentlemen,—now be gentlemen!" Loud cheers and laughter proclaimed the restoration of universal good humour. But Mr. Binney's generosity and the people's forbearance were alike thrown away upon the Biographer of a speaker who never stopped to be hissed off. The Harrow-school Doctor stopped in his reading only to inform his would-be hearers that he was determined to finish what he had written. It is more to the credit of the congregation than of the preacher, that he was permitted this easy defiance. With Binney to follow, it was certain that the hall would not empty;—and so the *denouement*, and even the epilogue, were read in sulky silence.

It was more than half-past nine when Mr. Binney commenced, at a pitch of voice suited to the building, and with a satirical good humour. "Now, gentlemen—(laughter and applause)—I call you that by courtesy—(more cheers and laughter)—I rise with a determination not to finish what I have written. (Laughter and cheers). I will go on till ten o'clock, if you will let me. (Cheers, and cries of 'Yes, yes, 'Eleven.')

He began with intimating that the course of his remarks might disappoint expectation, inasmuch as he intended rather to give some plain, practical advice than to indulge in the pleasant reflections which the word *authorship* might suggest. Without meaning any offence, he believed that a popular assembly generally likes better to be pleased than taught. (Laughter and cheers). "Those words are actually written in the manuscript"—(a declaration which called forth much additional merriment, as they seemed an *impromptu* comment on the scene which had just occurred). "And," continued the lecturer, "it is especially impatient if the subject of the lecture can only interest a few—(hear, hear)—and is of such a nature that it should rather have been addressed in a more private way to those few alone. (Hear, hear)." It would, therefore, have been better, while far more agreeable and pleasant to himself, for his paper to have been read at the rooms of the association, and to those only whom it might concern. Notwithstanding his apologetic exordium, several paragraphs of admirable writing were devoted to the general subject. It then appeared that his choice of a topic arose from his having been one of the adjudicators on a number of essays by young men engaged in commercial pursuits. In all those which he read he found much that was original and excellent, but in a large number of them there were also many striking evidences of a want of simplicity, cultivation, and condensation. Some of them were like a lady's letter—without pause or point. But, notwithstanding all imperfections, as an old hand at this sort of work, he could not but feel deeply interested in those young authors. He would have proved a traitor to the profession of authorship if he

had not felt that there was much to be commended in every one of them. He held the desire to write a book to be a laudable ambition—to wish to send into the world a new book,—a thing that could speak as soon as it was born if they would give it an opportunity. In looking at the great bulk of MSS. which lay before him, written in all varieties of penmanship, and on all sorts and sizes of paper, he could not help thinking of the pangs and throes with which they had been produced, the paternal affection with which they had been welcomed, and which followed them still. He could well understand the tremulous anxiety of which they were the subjects; the hopes, the fears, the doubts, which hung about and hovered over them; the wishes that went with them when they were sent forth to await their fate; the palpitating apprehensions, the strange mixture of fears and hopes with which the decision was anticipated which should return them to whence they came, or advance them to the dignity of printed books.

"None but an author knew an author's cares,
An author's fondness for the child he bears."

Thus, then, was it with him, that, when requested to give a short essay instead of giving a lecture, the thought struck him that he might deliver something interesting and useful to those of their number who were in the habit of attempting original composition. The first subject of advice was the cultivation of style; the defence of an exclusively English education as a sufficient qualification for writing when anything was to be said; but the enforcement of culture, of the bestowal of toil and taste, as an essential to success. At this point, it being past ten, he thought it best to stop where he was,—promising, however, that the manuscript should be sent to the printer's, so that the young men would still have the opportunity of profiting by his advice.

EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYED.

The Conference convened by the Society of Arts was held on Monday, at the Society's Rooms, in the Adelphi, and was well attended. Besides the deputations of numerous trade societies, there were present Lord R. Grosvenor (in the chair), Lord Goderich, Lord Stanley, M.P., Viscount Elmley, Sir Wm. Clay, M.P., Mr. Hindley, Mr. Slaney, Mr. George Dawson, Mr. Thornton Hunt, and other gentlemen connected with the press.

The Chairman read the subjects of discussion as laid down by the Council. Mr. Ernest Jones proposed a series of affirmatory resolutions, which the meeting refused to receive; upon which Mr. Jones, in the name of "the working classes," denounced and withdrew from the Conference.

Among the speakers were Mr. Slaney, Mr. Lloyd Jones, Mr. Hughes (barrister), Mr. W. Newton, Mr. George Cowell, Mr. S. Kidd, Mr. Pryne (late Professor of Political Economy at Cambridge University), Mr. Henderson (of the firm of Fox and Henderson), Lord Goderich, Mr. Hindley, and Mr. Robert Owen. Mr. Ainsworth (Secretary of the Preston Masters' Association) was present, but not in a representative capacity, and declined to offer any statement or explanation.

The speakers, even those of the same class, differed on the subject of trade combinations; but there was a general condemnation both of strikes and lock-outs, an equally general desire for arbitration in disputes between masters and men, and a unanimous resolution against the present law of partnership. Mr. Henderson avowed the readiness of himself and partners to submit to arbitration in any case of dispute; and a letter to the same effect was sent by Mr. Knott, of Sunderland. Mr. Hindley regretted there were so few masters present, defended combinations among men as necessary while masters also combined, and complimented Mr. George Cowell.

There was no time to enter upon the question of "wages" and modes of payment; a motion for adjournment being resisted by the committee. The proceedings, therefore, closed with a vote of thanks to the Council and to Lord Grosvenor.

The Preston masters met on Thursday last only to adjourn for another week. This unhappy step has accelerated the migration to other towns. Already about 180 families and 70 unmarried men have been assisted to remove. The operatives fund for the week ending Sunday last, was £2,500. Mr. Charles Dickens, and Mr. Wills, the editor of *Household Words*, were present at the delegates and operatives meetings on Sunday and Monday.

The Wigan strike is not at an end, though all the mills are working. The contributions received by those still out have increased tenfold since the beginning of the strike. A fresh turnout is threatened.

An extensive movement has taken place among the workmen and sailors of the Tyne and Wear, for an increase of wages.

The goods traffic on railways has become enormously developed. The revenue from goods in England and Wales, which in 1846 was only 37½ per cent. of the gross revenue upon the railways of the country, now exceeds 50 per cent. of that gross revenue. In Scotland there has been an increase in the sums received for the conveyance both of goods and passengers, as well as in the number of passengers in all cases; but especially with reference to goods, greatly exceeding the rate of increase in the railways themselves. The proportion of the revenue derived from the conveyance of goods is nearly 60 per cent. of the whole. In Ireland there has likewise been an increase in the receipts from both descriptions of traffic greater than in the proportion due to the increased mileage, but the number of passengers has not increased in the same ratio.

Foreign and Colonial.

RUSSIA AND TURKEY.

THE CZAR AND THE WESTERN POWERS.

The *Journal des Débats* says, that the explanations demanded by Russia of France and England, were upon two points—"Was the neutrality on the Black Sea, which was to interdict the Russians from attacking the ports, the coasts, and the ships of Turkey, in the same manner to interdict the Turks from attacking the ports, the coasts, and the ships of Russia? Was this neutrality to be understood in this sense, that if the Russians were to abstain from going from their ports in Europe to their ports in Asia, for the purpose of carrying to their army in Asia succour in men, arms, ammunition, and provisions of every kind, were the Turks, on their side, to be called upon to abstain from navigating from their ports in Europe to their ports in Asia, for the purpose of carrying succour to their armies in Asia? The first point presented no difficulty. It was agreed that the Turks and Russians should equally abstain from attacking the ports, the coasts, and the ships of the enemy; but, on the second point, it was believed that the Cabinet of London would refuse all explanation, and consequently any engagement on that point—referring simply to the instructions which the admirals had already received, and to the acts which they had accomplished in virtue of those instructions." The determination to give this reply was not, it is reported, attained without considerable difficulty, and some hesitation on the part of the French Cabinet, which on this occasion inclined, as I am told, to think England too precipitate, and proposed a less decided note than the one finally agreed upon.

It is stated in well-informed quarters that the Russian Ambassador in London is continuing his preparations for departure; and that he has already received, in a non-official form, such an answer from Lord Clarendon as has decided him to break off diplomatic relations with Great Britain. Owing, however, to some delay on the part of the French Government in re-transmitting to London the precise text of the reply which is to be given jointly to the Russian representatives by the two Governments, the official communication, it is understood, had not been made to Baron Brunow up to this morning. It is, however, confidently believed that the Baron expects to leave London this week. We may mention that, during the last few days, a number of Russian officers, who have for some time past been in England, have left the kingdom for the continent. It was rumoured in Paris yesterday, that M. de Kisseleff was to leave that evening. The *Times* correspondent writes;—"I am informed, however, that his departure will not take place till Thursday next, and that of M. de Brunow probably from London to-morrow."

THE FLEETS IN THE BLACK SEA.

A letter from Sinope, dated Jan. 13, evidently written by a British officer, describes the movements of the combined fleet since they entered the Black Sea on the 4th. On the 5th they were joined by a Turkish squadron of five steamers with troops.

"Friday, 6.—At 3 p.m. the fleet anchored in Sinope Bay. The town is situated on an isthmus which connects a high hill with the main. A strong wall runs along both sides of the isthmus, with a high castle at the end, near the main land. Our arrival caused the utmost consternation among the unfortunate inhabitants, many of whom have lost everything by the late action. The Turkish part of the town is completely destroyed; and the beach is covered with masts, spars, &c.—in fact, every part of a ship. One steamer and a corvette were driven ashore; the rest were sunk, and the masts of many are still above water. But what renders the scene more melancholy are the number of mutilated bodies lying about. Several hundreds have been covered with earth, but have been again uncovered by dogs, vultures, &c.

"Sunday, 8.—We weighed at noon, and escorted the five Turkish steamers to Trebizond, where we arrived on Tuesday, the 10th; remained all day, and went on to Batoum; anchored at 9 a.m. the next day. It is a small place, with a few guns, on a low point. General Guyon commands the Turkish forces, which consist of 30,000 at Fort Nicolai, which is still held by them, notwithstanding frequent attempts on the part of the Russians to retake it. The people at Batoum are in great force; every man well armed, and wanting nothing but what we took them—powder. We left Batoum on Wednesday, the 11th, at 4 p.m., and reached this place this afternoon. The "Fury" leaves us at once for Constantinople.

Another letter says:—"The Turkish squadron was under the united British and French protection, with orders to guard them from any aggression on the part of Russia." It goes on to say:—

"Jan. 9.—Steaming along the southern coast of the Black Sea, keeping all together. The scenery is beyond description—mountains of a stupendous height literally covered with snow, with immense forests of pine trees protruding, and, owing to the excessive clearness of the atmosphere, appear to be close to you, though, in fact, fifty or sixty miles distant. The loveliest weather you can possibly imagine; not a cloud to be seen, and perfectly calm." Trebizond is described as "A miserable Turkish town; hardly a decent house in it, with the exception of the British Consul's. Here they are very indifferently prepared to resist any attack from sea or land, having only a couple of miserable forts, and those scantily supplied with cannon." At Batoum, the whole of the ammunition was landed for the army, which was about fifteen miles off. The place is a mere village, with a single fort on a point. While proceeding to Batoum, the whole squadron prepared for action, having heard at Trebizond that a Russian squadron of four line of battle ships and four steamers had been seen off the place. "The Turks have commenced getting up

guns, stores, &c., from the ships sunk by the Russians in the late massacre at Sinope. Three Russian steamers were on this frontier three days previous to our arrival, trying the range of their guns at some of the Turkish forts."

In accordance with despatches from London and Paris, and after a conference between Lord Redcliffe and General d'Hilliers, fresh and stringent instructions were on the 12th sent off to the fleets. Their object was, to prevent all further aggression, or chance of aggression, on Turkish ships and Turkish coasts—and "that any Russian ships of war met in the Black Sea will be required, and compelled, if necessary, to return to their own ports."

It is stated that the Russians have concentrated their maritime forces at Kaffa, in the Crimea, not far from the strait which leads from the Euxine into the Sea of Azof.

The Turkish steamers, which had succeeded in landing troops and military stores at Trebizond, to be forwarded to Kars, were preparing to take out fresh supplies of ammunition and troops, and it was believed that three English frigates were to escort them.

It is stated that the steamer "Retribution," sent with a message to the Governor of Sebastopol, under cover of a flag, steamed inside the outer forts. On her being discovered, three blank guns were fired across her bows; a boat boarded and told her she was in quarantine for fourteen days, and pointed out a bay some way outside, to which she must go before they would hold any communication with her. Five sail of the line were lying there, with a Rear-Admiral's flag; and having springs on their cable, swung their ships so as to bring their broadsides on to "Retribution." A Russian officer came on board to inform himself of the object of the arrival of the vessel, and said that the admiral and governor were both absent, but that there would be plenty of time for them to be informed of his arrival before the English frigate had performed her quarantine. This, Captain Drummond refused to accede to, saying that his mission was confined to delivering his despatches, which he did in exchange for a receipt, and soon after left to join the combined fleets at Sinope. This is the first time that a foreign vessel of war has been able to enter the port of Sebastopol, and there is every reason to believe that the English officers not only carefully examined all the fortifications of the place, but also took a plan of them. Sebastopol is very strong, much more so than report gives. The officers of the "Retributions" say that they observed more than 200 guns on them at one time. A French officer who went in her asserts that Cherbourg is very strong, but that that was equal to three, if not four Cherbours.

THE CZAR'S NEW MISSION TO VIENNA.

The papers of last week announced that Count Orloff, had been despatched to Vienna to bring about an interview between his master, Nicholas, the Emperor of Austria, and the King of Prussia; and also to state the terms upon which Russia would agree to a peace. It is affirmed that one part of Count Orloff's mission is to obtain permission to send, under certain circumstances, a Russian corps from Warsaw, by way of Presburg, to the Danubian seat of war. His first interview with the Emperor took place on Saturday. He was to leave Vienna for Berlin on Wednesday or Thursday.

Letters from Vienna, Constantinople, and Widdin represent the conduct of Austria at this moment as insidiously and dangerously hostile to Turkey. Austria demands that the commanders who have lately so ably defended Turkey on the Danube shall be removed, on the plea that they are renegades and revolutionaries. The concession of such a claim would deprive the Sultan of the services of Selim Pacha, Commandant of Kalafat; Ismail Pacha, who fought so gallantly at Csitate; and even those of Omer Pacha himself. While preferring this demand, Austria is adding to her army of 80,000 men on the Turkish frontier by marching down 30,000 from Bohemia.

The official *Journal de St. Petersburg* of the 20th instant states that the notification relative to the entrance of the fleets having been made only verbally to the Cabinet of St. Petersburg, the Russian Government has considered it necessary to require from England and France a categorical declaration with regard to the character and bearing they intend giving to their action. On this declaration will depend the ulterior attitude of Russia.

A ukase has been issued ordering the sailors of the Baltic fleet, now on leave of absence, to repair to their ships.

The Russian Government must already be in considerable pecuniary difficulties, as Prince Paskiewitch has informed the Warsaw Mortgage or Discount Bank that its capital will be taken as a loan.

HOSTILITIES ON THE DANUBE AND IN ASIA.

Up to the 26th no further movements had taken place at Kalafat. So says the Vienna telegraph, although there have been reports of another great battle on the 20th, in which the Russians were defeated. Prince Gortschakoff was in Little Wallachia last week, and Russian forces were arriving at the head quarters of General Aurep as fast as the state of the roads would permit. It was, however, reported that Prince Gortschakoff has even received an order forbidding further waste of life like that at Csitate, and directing a postponement of the attack until a larger force shall be available. According to the Russian reports from Krajova, their loss in Little Wallachia may, on the whole, amount to nearly 5,000 men, not including those who have been taken prisoners by the Turks.

The Russians had suffered a severe loss at Matchin on the 13th, and had a steamer disabled. It is stated that the Russian corps in Little Wallachia is composed of 30,000 men of all arms, with sixty guns; 28,000 of these are to co-operate in a grand attack on Kalafat. The strength of the Turks in Kalafat

amounts at most to 20,000 men; a number believed by competent men quite sufficient to defend that place vigorously.

There are rumours of the dismissal of General Gortschakoff and the disgrace of General Aurep. General Schilder is mentioned as the successor of the former; but from intelligence from the frontiers of Poland, it appears that this same general, who is described as "Chief of the Engineers," has been ordered to proceed from Warsaw to Wallachia, for the purpose of throwing bridges across the Danube, and directing the passage of that river.

The garrison of Kars is composed of 25,000 Turks. All operations are suspended by the snow, which covers the ground to a great depth. Iskander Bey, Colonel of the staff, had arrived at Constantinople on the 18th from Kars, with a petition signed by the whole staff of the army of Asia, praying that Kurschid Pasha (General Guyon) should be named to the command-in-chief of the army of Anatolia.

LORD DUDLEY STUART AND THE POLISH LANCERS.

The *Daily News* publishes an extract from a letter written by Lord Dudley Stuart, dated Constantinople, Jan. 14th, in which he says, "we spent two days at Schumla, where the most marked attentions were paid us by Omer Pacha, whose conversation we found most interesting, and whose superiority of intellect was apparent. Thence we proceeded over the redoubtable pass of the Balkan mountains to Adrianople." Within twenty miles of the capital they met a body of lancers. "On they came, and as they approached we perceived that they were Sadyk Pacha (Czajkowski) and his Cossacks on their march to the Danube. You will readily imagine that when I was recognised the troop came to a halt. A few words from Sadyk persuaded me to turn back and accompany them a little way on the road. I was made to exchange my post horse for a fine grey charger, with military trappings; and riding side by side with Sadyk, at the head of his Polish troops, I re-entered Buok-est-medjie. I dined at their mess, and slept at their quarters. Sadyk's officers are fine fellows—Poles, Cossacks, and Wallachians—and I found Prince Stourza, who is temporarily attached to them, a most superior man. Next morning they were all drawn up in line, and, having sung their Polish and Cossack songs, and greeted me with a hearty cheer, they proceeded on their march, their banner, on which was emblazoned in significant conjunction, the Cross and the Crescent, floating above them. We rode on to Constantinople." Lord Dudley was to leave on the 17th, so as to arrive in London soon after the meeting of Parliament.

THE CZAR AND THE CITIZEN.

The following extract from a private letter from St. Petersburg is given in the *New York Tribune*:—"The last grand manoeuvres of the Imperial Guards and the corps of the Grenadiers in the plains of Krasnoé Selo (Red Village) were very brilliant, and attracted a great number of German Princes, with some English lords and other distinguished foreigners. During one of the final days of this gathering there appeared among the resplendent cortege of the Emperor, mounted on a horse from the Imperial stables, a short, thick-set individual in a black frock coat and black hat—in a word, dressed like a simple civilian, or *pekin*—accompanied by a high official from the Ministry of foreign affairs, in the full embroidered uniform of a councillor of state. Both came from the house kept there by the Emperor for distinguished visitors, and joined the numerous suite of the Czar. Everybody was puzzled at this unwonted spectacle. But what was the general astonishment when, towards the end of the parade, the Emperor, himself a giant, mounted on a gigantic horse, politely approached the black-coated little civilian, and bending down to the neck of his steed, began a conversation in English, of which, having gathered several sentences, I am able to transmit them to you. "Very happy to see you, Mr. Douglas," began the Emperor; "you come from the south, from Odessa, and have traversed Russia. What are your impressions?"

"Your Majesty," answered the black man, whom we had now discovered to be an eminent American senator, "I have seen your empire, and I have also seen the west of Europe. There I saw the past, and here I see the future." Not so bad for a republican. "You come from Constantinople," said the Czar. "They speak badly of me there. Do you bring from there peace or war?" "Both are in the hands of your Majesty." The Emperor, in the most amiable and enchanting manner, excused himself for not receiving personally in St. Petersburg the distinguished senator from a country which he admired. But he several times said to his guest that if he wished anything, specially he (the Emperor) would be very happy to oblige him, and that orders had been given that every object which the senator might desire to visit or see, should be opened to him. The conversation lasted for twenty minutes; and seldom has the Czar been more gracious to any visitor, no matter what his rank. As I afterwards ascertained, this interview was specially arranged by Count Nesselrode, who also procured permission, asked of him by Mr. Douglas, to appear in a black suit before the Autocrat. This was not considered objectionable by either the minister or the Sovereign; on the ground, as I learn, that Americans, when visiting their President, wear no uniforms. It was by the order of the Emperor that rooms were prepared in Krasnoé Selo for the reception of this gentleman. I am told that he was much pleased with his visit in our dear Russia, and among other things, found a great resemblance between our plains and the west of America.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

The Swedish Diet have voted, without opposition, discussion, or even ballot, the extraordinary appropriations demanded for the army and navy.

In case of a general action in the Black Sea, the combined fleet will be commanded by Admiral Hamelin, the senior officer.

On the 11th, 150 Turkish Cossacks marched out of Constantinople for Adrianople and Schumla, where they will assemble as a regiment about 1,000 strong.

It is stated that a treaty of neutrality, in case of war, has been concluded between Austria, Prussia, and the other German States; and that, in order to preserve that attitude, and prevent insurrection, an army of 100,000 will be employed by the Frankfort Diet.

Letters from Odessa of the 13th contradict the news of the Turkish Admiral Osman Pasha's death, reported in the German papers. He is convalescent, but his recovery is very slow on account of his great age.

The Sultan is about departing to Adrianople with an enormous retinue. It was rumoured that General Baraguay d'Hilliers would accompany him.

Russia, it is said, refuses to consent to the neutrality of Denmark, and calls on her to take one side or the other.

The Turkish Government, on the recommendation of General Baraguay d'Hilliers, has decided on establishing a line of electric telegraph from Constantinople to Schumla.

A letter from Constantinople of the 15th inst. states, that the old Turkish party are all disposed to open direct negotiations with the Emperor of Russia, with the view of preventing all further progress or reform, of which the Western Powers make their support a condition.

A young Russian officer has thus explained how it was that more Russians than Turks had fallen at Kalafat and elsewhere:—"The Koran prohibits the use of strong liquors, so that Turks always fight sober; the Russians, on the contrary, are almost always drunk, and consequently run more into danger."

The nobility of the Chimeric Government have sent 43,000 silver roubles to purchase 500 horses for the army in the field. The Czar wrote upon the most dutifully submissive cover of the written document, containing the bequest, the words "extremely thankful."

Letters from Australia state that the heavy 50-gun Russian frigate, "Dwina," that was fitted out in England, has arrived out on that station. The "Calliope," 26, is the largest British man-of-war on the Australian station, which, with the "Fantome," 12, and a small tender or two, are the only English ships-of-war there. Some apprehension is felt that the Russians may carry off a gold-ship.

INDIA AND CHINA.

The intelligence by the overland mail is not of very great consequence. "The Bombay Government has, it is said, at length received certain information of the alliance of Persia with Russia, and of the advance of a Persian army against the Turkish Pashalic of Bagdad. The army that had been collected in the north-east of Persia for the purpose (as it was supposed) of co-operating with the Russian forces in Georgia and Circassia, having broken up its quarters, had marched south to Shiraz and Bushire, thereby gaining the coast road to Bussora and the Pashalic of Bagdad, which it now threatens. On the arrival of this force (reported to be 60,000 strong) in the neighbourhood of Bushire, the Resident immediately sent despatches for the Home Government to Bombay, with copies for the Bengal Indian Government, and summoned the officer commanding the Indian naval squadron in the Persian Gulf to Bushire; and his ship, the "Clive," is now anchored there. Lord Dalhousie, being at Pegu, it may be some weeks before any communication can be received from him. The Bombay Government have, meanwhile, taken energetic steps for carrying out without loss of time any orders that it may receive. The seaports and coasts of Persia are completely at the mercy of the Company's cruisers. The news from Persia has greatly excited the Arabs, of whom (owing to our trade with the Persian Gulf) there are always great numbers at Bombay. They are devout Sunnites, and hate and despise the Persians as heretics. One of these, Shaik Abdool Ettoo, is said to have declared that, if the Bombay Government would advance £3,000 to start with, he would undertake to raise 25,000 Arab horse at Bussora in twenty-five days, and with these would account for the Persian army, and plunder Bushire.

Lord Dalhousie had quitted Calcutta for Rangoon on the 9th ult., and was expected to be absent for two months. A plot has been discovered at Rangoon for surprising the garrison of that place and massacring the British. It was to have taken effect on the 23rd of November, but was divulged by one of the accomplices in time to admit of precautions being taken, which precluded all possibility of its success. The platform of the great pagoda is the British citadel at Rangoon, and the conspirators were to take advantage of a religious ceremony that was to take place on the 23rd to assemble at the pagoda in large numbers with concealed weapons, and to surprise and overpower the guards. About 1,500 men had been enrolled to take part in the insurrection. The two principal ring-leaders were captured; "one is a purse-bearer and the other a sword-bearer to the King of Ava." "It will of course," says the *Englishman's* correspondent, "be difficult to prove any connexion with the Court of Ava, though there is not any moral doubt on the subject."

During the absence of the Governor-General in Pegu, the Hon. Mr. Dorin has been appointed to act as Deputy-Governor of Bengal and President of the Council of India. Bombay has been relieved from the rule of one of the most unpopular Governors ever known in India, by the instalment of Lord Elphinstone into office as Governor in the room of Lord Falkland.

Lord Dalhousie is endeavouring to establish vernacular schools throughout India for the instruction of the masses of the people.

From China there is nothing decisive. It is stated in the *Pekin Gazette* of Oct. 29, that the rebels had reached within sixty to eighty miles of the capital,

which, if correct, cannot much longer permit matters to remain in *status quo*. It is also stated, that in their progress towards the capital, the insurgents have destroyed all the bridges by which they crossed the rivers, so as to effectually prevent even the thought of retreating. At Shanghai, the usual skirmishing was going forward between the Imperialists and rebels; but it was reported, a combined attack by land and water was to be made on the city by the Imperialists on the 6th inst., and the next accounts are likely to be of a decisive character. We learn from Amoy that the Imperialists were literally decimating the villages by summary and wholesale executions of persons suspected of aiding the rebels. The bands of pirates hired by the Imperialists and hounded upon the rebels, still remain in the vicinity, and are loudly demanding the promised reward. All trade operations are virtually suspended. Many of the rebel junks had succeeded in getting clear of their assailants, and are reported to have sailed for Singapore.

At Canton, matters are assuming a threatening aspect. The wholesale executions daily enacted are beginning to re-act on ruling authorities, not merely inspiring terror but provoking resistance. Mobs were collecting in all directions, and it was rumoured that an attempt was about to be made to overthrow the executive—a step which it is doubtful the ill-disposed part of the population will take.

The Russian Admiral arrived at Shanghai in the screw-tender, "Vostock," on the 27th ult., leaving his frigate, the "Pallas," and a brig-of-war under the Saddle Islands, just arrived from Nagasaki, where he waited a reply from Jeddo, which reported the death of the Emperor of Japan. This event will, it is said, place the court in mourning for three years, during which period no foreign embassy can be received. It appears that the Admiral considered any longer delay fruitless.

ITALY.

The Neapolitan correspondent of the *Daily News* writes, with the exception of Piedmont, no Italian state at the present moment can hope to escape another year without revolution or foreign occupation. I have now before me a reliable report of the condition of Austrian Italy, and it is very clear that the Imperial Government has done nothing towards reconciling Lombardy since 1848-49. The streets of Milan, once gay with equipages, are deserted; the theatres are filled with Austrian soldiers only, trade is dull, and discontent universal. The military are constantly under arms, the police are always at work, and the slightest events alarm the Government. Foreigners are watched narrowly both in Milan and Venice. The Grand Duke of Tuscany is nothing more than an Austrian lieutenant and Papal puppet. He has lost every Italian heart; even the most degraded court sycophant looks with indignation on his abdication of all right to have a voice in the affairs of state. The religious persecution, too, is an offence to enlightened Roman Catholics, of which there are many in Tuscany. There can be no doubt that the next political movement in Italy will embody a strongly pronounced religious protestation against the immorality and persecuting character of Popery. The sight-seeing traveller cannot judge of the extent of dissent from the Church in the Peninsula. The expression of religious opinion is visited with as much severity as that of political opposition to the existing rule. Thousands, therefore, who have long learned the pernicious interference of the Roman Church in checking the progress of lay reform silently wait their time. Every day the Romans are becoming more reconciled to their French conquerors; but they like them only because they are offensive to the Church. "After all, France is our only hope," say the Romans. Passing on to the Two Sicilies—what in the main do my continual reports from this kingdom show? A king and a people more than ever divided. A huge army eating up the greater portion of the revenue—a police systematically injuring and offending every family in the kingdom—making, in fact, every man a rebel to the crown. No great public works can be undertaken even by foreign enterprise, owing to the corruption of public men. English companies are continually proposing railways and telegraphs, which would of necessity improve the condition of the people. But the demands of compensation on the part of the Ministers of the Crown prevent all operations. A high tariff checks commerce; and a dishonest executive continues to throw every difficulty in the way of trade.

The Piedmontese Government is making preparations for war. The Piedmontese Chambers have improved upon the free-trade tendencies of the Ministers by an amendment abolishing the duties on corn.

At Milan, a number of persons were lately arrested, for having walked on the Corso with black pipes, which, it seems, the authorities considered a demonstration.

The *Milan Gazette* of the 22nd publishes a decree from the Austrian Minister of Finance, announcing that in consequence of the fall in the value of paper money, it will not be received at the Custom-house unless at a discount of 17½ per cent.

FRANCE.

The Senate and Legislative body are convoked for February 27.

The *Moniteur* of Friday published a report addressed to the Emperor by the Finance Minister. It shows that, by cancelling credits and by excess of revenue, the apparent deficit of 98,000,000 francs for the current year will be reduced to 4,000,000 francs. The budget of 1854-55, it is anticipated, will leave no deficit. The report also shows that the increase in the revenue derived from indirect taxes in 1852 was more than sustained in 1853—it was exceeded by 44,500,000 francs. Generally, the revenue received had exceeded the estimates.

The *Moniteur* contains a decree calling into active service the second portion of the recruits of the year

1851. The reason for this measure, given in the decree, is, that "the last levy was insufficient to fill up the vacancies caused by discharges in *les armes spéciales*." The plain fact is (says the *Daily News* correspondent), that this decree is a further augmentation of the army by another 40,000 men. It seems to be certain that in case war should be declared, an army of from 20,000 to 25,000 men will be immediately sent from Africa. The *Siecle* says, on the authority of a letter from London, that the Turkish ambassadors have obtained a promise that if the Russians cross the Danube, an Anglo-French army shall be sent into Turkey.

General Pelissier has left Paris for Oran, where he is to make all the necessary preparations for the embarkation of 10,000 men, who are to be sent from that province to Constantinople. It appears that in the first instance France will send 25,000 men, and England 15,000. This united army will take the place of the Sultan's guard of 20,000 men at Constantinople, while the latter will be sent to join Omer Pasha's army on the Danube.

Prince Napoleon, the son of Jerome, left Paris on Sunday evening for Brussels, on a special mission from the Emperor to the King of the Belgians. It is understood that this mission was specially requested by King Leopold, it being the wish of his Majesty to make a public demonstration of the good footing upon which he stands with France, and of the falsehood of the reports which attribute to him the character of an agent and partisan of Russia. Prince Napoleon is instructed to enforce upon his Majesty the necessity of showing to the world that he gives his cordial and unsuspected support to the allied Powers in the Russian affair.

The Empress Eugénie having been prescribed exercise, she had a pair of skates made fitted with wheels, and on these she skims the polished floors of the salons in the Tuilleries.

Louis Napoleon is received in public now with the most respectful obeisances, and he rides unattended through the streets.

The Emperor of the French has a "model farm" at Lamotte-Beuvron. The farmers who have taken land in that locality from the Emperor, and the labourers and poor of the district, appear to have been very liberally treated.

Prosecutions for mere words idly spoken are now carried on to an extent not only tyrannical, but ridiculous. One seldom takes up a paper, metropolitan or provincial, without reading a case of "insult to the Emperor's person." A journeyman brassfounder, named Cousin, was last month sentenced to fifteen months' imprisonment and 500*fr.* fine upon an indictment containing the following three counts. He said of his master publicly—viz., in the manufactory where he worked—that he, the master, was a knave, a thief, and a blackguard; he further attacked the principle of property, by saying, if the working-classes chose, there was no occasion for them to pay rent; and he insulted the Emperor by saying France did not want either an emperor or a king, and that the Emperor did not do his duty. It appears that the public prosecutor thought the punishment not enough. He appealed, and the tribunal of the Seine on Saturday increased the sentence to two years' imprisonment.

A contract has just been taken at Rochefort for the equipment of 15,000 men; they are to be furnished within one month, independent of 20,000 more, which number is nearly complete.

A society has been established at Bordeaux, with the sanction of the Prefect of the Gironde, for promoting the observance of Sunday as a day of rest.

A bed of amber has been discovered in a coal mine near Pragus. Pieces weighing two and three pounds each have been extracted.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

The last accounts from the west coast of Africa, say that the slave trade is "very flat," no prizes having recently been made. The *Volcano* has been on the coast nearly three years, and has not taken a single prize. She captured a brig, but this was a mistake, the vessel being a French trader and not a slaver.

An impostor has been duping the "best society" at Venice and neighbouring places, by calling himself "Apostolic Vicar General of Foz." His reception was almost "brilliant": he was admitted to the confidence of bishops; he got large contributions for pious purposes; celebrated mass in the cathedrals, and was about to receive the privilege of confirming bishops, when the police unmasked him. He turns out to be an old offender; he was expelled from the ecclesiastical seminary of Petrioli in 1843; his episcopal insignia were made of yellow metal and paper!

The *Espana* of the 15th instant, a Madrid journal, tells a pretty story of that model of piety the Queen Dowager Christina. "As Queen Maria Christina was passing along the Calle de Alcalá, she met a priest carrying the sacrament to a poor sick man. Her Majesty immediately got out of her carriage, made the priest enter it, and followed the vehicle, with a wax candle in her hand, through the dirty streets, to the sick man's residence; after which she proceeded on foot to the parish-church." Per contra, Queen Christina is one of the warmest supporters of the Cuban slave traffic.

The East India Company has sent to the Manchester Commercial Association certain species of grass grown in Assam and other parts of Hindostan, which are pronounced a good rival to Russian hemp.

The *New York Tribune* announced the receipt of private letters from Kossuth, stating his intention of leaving on the 23rd ult. for Constantinople.

The friends of Dr. Lang in Australia are endeavouring to raise a sum of £5,000, as a tribute to his exertions on behalf of the colony. There is little doubt that the sum will be forthcoming.

New York, like London, has been visited by extremes of temperature: mild spring weather has succeeded sharp frost and deep snow.

M. Blanqui, of the Institute, the well known political economist, died in Paris on Saturday night, after a long and painful illness.

A terrible earthquake took place at Finana, in Algeria, in Spain, on the night of the 13th of January. While every one was asleep, the soil was suddenly shaken and turned over by a series of violent shocks following each other in rapid succession, and accompanied by a prolonged noise resembling the rolling of thunder, and followed by numerous fissures. It crumbled down the greatest part of the Alcazaba (an ancient castle of the Moors), broke houses to pieces, and caused large chasms in nearly all the streets. Eight persons were afterwards dug out in a terrible state of mutilation.

The advices from Mauritius state, that arrangements had been made for reopening the trade with Madagascar, the Government having accepted the 15,000 dollars subscribed by the members of the Mauritius Chamber of Commerce.

Madlle. Emelia Manin, the daughter of the ex-President of the Republic of Venice, who died a few days ago at Paris, was followed to the grave on Friday by a large concourse of literary men, artists, and political celebrities of liberal opinions. MM. Emile de Girardin, Ferdinand de Lesseps, Bastide, Garnier, Pages, Goudchaux, Carnot, Jules Simon, Geoffrey de St. Hilaire, and Madier de Montjau, were of the number. A few hours before her death, and when she could no longer speak, Madlle. Manin made signs that she wished to write, and traced with a pencil these words, "Poor Venice, I shall never see thee more."

It is proposed to establish at Zurich a Federal University for the whole of Switzerland. The institution is to comprehend five faculties—philosophy, Catholic and Protestant theology (separate faculties), law, and medicine; and also a polytechnic school.

M. Victor Hugo is about to leave Jersey with his family to reside in Portugal.

The *Gazette* of Baden announces that the negotiations begun between the Government and the clergy have failed, the Archbishop of Freiburg having declared that he would not give up any of his rights.

AMERICAN NOTES.

The House of Representatives has voted a resolution tendering the thanks of Congress and a medal to Captain Ingram, for his conduct in the Kossta affair at Smyrna.

The Senate has agreed to a resolution directing the Committee on Naval Affairs to inquire into the expediency of making some suitable acknowledgement by the United States to the officers and crews of the British ship, "Three Bells," and the American vessels "Kilby" and "Antarctic," for assisting in saving the survivors from the San Francisco.

At the close of ex-Secretary Clayton's speech in reply to General Cass, a spirited discussion took place between the two gentlemen, after which the subject of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty was laid on the table. The prevailing opinion, as expressed through the press, is that General Cass has the worst of the argument, and the question has not gained ground under his agitation.

Captain Ericsson, in a letter to the newspapers respecting the Caloric ship, states that there is not the slightest cause for doubt in relation to this enterprise. The new engines are completed, and have been at work several days, their operations proving conclusively that the practical difficulties which attended the first arrangement have all been overcome. The new engines are much reduced in size, while their principle of action is the same as before, with this exception only, condensed atmospheric air is employed in place of the ordinary atmospheric for producing the motive power.

A report having been circulated in Philadelphia that M. Bedini, the Pope's Nuncio, had arrived, a large procession was formed and marched through the streets of that place, at the head of which was born an effigy of the Nuncio. Placards, printed in four languages, were recently posted throughout the city of New Orleans, in which a contemplated visit from the Nuncio was announced, and the propriety of treating him as a wild beast was urged.

The packetship "Continent" had arrived at New York in 42 days from Liverpool, with the loss of 54 of her steerage passengers by cholera.

Gen. Gadsden, United States Minister to Mexico, arrived at New Orleans on the 12th inst., with the new Mexican treaty. It is stated that the Mexican Government have agreed to sell about 40 millions of acres of land in the Mesilla Valley for 20 millions of dollars—one-fourth of which is to remain in United States' hands to meet claims against Mexico, including that of the Garay grant.

A "difficulty" about land occurred between Judge Gates and Jonathan Harrold, in Sutter township, California; the luminary of the law settled it by shooting Harrold through the head. The Judge gave himself into custody, and he has been held to bail.

From California we learn Walker's Filibustero expedition had miscarried. "The pirates have been hemmed in, many of them shot, and, it is hoped, all of them captured."

The Governor-General of Cuba has published an order freeing all emancipated negroes.

Mr. Rowland Hill has addressed a letter on behalf of the Post-office, to the railway authorities, insisting that an immediate stop be put to the present irregularities in the mail trains. The real source of delay, he says, to be found, partly in stoppages at stations where they are not required by the mail service, but principally in the excessive traffic thrown on the mail trains.

PREPARATIONS FOR WAR.

It is stated in letters received from the fleet of Rear-Admiral Corry, that the vessels of the western squadron at Lisbon are ordered home, for the purpose of being stationed at the Nore and on the anchorage ground off the port of Sheerness, and are to be kept in a constant state of readiness for any emergency, and in case their services should be required in the North Sea. The fleet consists of one sailing ship of the line, two screw steam line-of-battle ships, five screw steam frigates, one paddle wheel steam-frigate, and one screw steam-sloop, carrying 524 guns of large calibre, and fitted with steam machinery of 3,480 horse power.

At a meeting at Ipswich of seafaring men, on Wednesday last, Captain P. Fisher, R.N. of the Royal Naval Coast Volunteers, told his audience:—"I have no doubt that war will very shortly occur. Government expects a war, and there can be no doubt that there will be a war." The lady who, says the *Suffolk Chronicle*, appeared to be very favourably impressed by the explanations, as well as by the sailor-like frankness of Captain Fisher, then dispersed, and it is expected that his appeal for volunteers will be well responded to.

The steamer "Rajah" sailed on Friday from Southampton, with fifty tons of medical stores, including everything that would be required after a great naval battle, and destined for the British fleet in the Black Sea. Gun-boat armaments have been sent to Constantinople, by the two last Black Sea steamers which have left Southampton.

The *Daily News* insists with much vigour and pertinacity on navy reform. In a leading article yesterday it calls attention to some plain and startling facts:—"The letter of our correspondent at Constantinople showed that one of our steamers now in the Black Sea—the 'Sanspareil'—'broke down' on its return from Sinope, and that the condition of another of our vessels on duty there—the 'Bellerophon'—is partially 'rotten.' These two ships are in this state before any enemy has been near them—when they are supposed to be, and ought to be, thoroughly efficient. To go no further back than 1831, there has been expended on the Naval branch of the public service not less than £115,000,000, and what is there to show for it? A vast number of costly and useless hulks, an army of half-pay and inexperienced officers, thirty-two efficient steam men-of-war, and, including petty officers, about twenty thousand decently trained seamen. The whole number of efficient blue-jackets, men and boys, prepared under our system for emergency of war with this vast outlay is 15,302, with some 5,000 petty officers; and more cannot be got. So alarmed, indeed, is the Admiralty at the prospect, that it is again having recourse to its old injustice, and restoring a quasi species of impressment. Then we have more than 3,000 officers, or one officer to seven men, and we have 12,500 soldiers, including a large number of officers, or more than half as many soldiers as seamen, borne under the name of the Navy. We have 6,000 spare soldiers, more than 2,000 surplus officers, and not one surplus seaman! One-seventh of our naval officers, on the average each of the captains made since 1841, cannot have been as captain two years at sea. Six-sevenths of the whole are always on shore, hanging about the clubs of the metropolis, or shooting or hunting with their friends in the country, or travelling abroad with their sisters or wives; or, perhaps, like Lieut. Engeldue, dabbled with elections as a means to get favour and promotion."

SIR BULWER LYTTON ON ENGLISHMEN AND ENGLISH EDUCATION.

The celebrated author and orator, whose speech at Edinburgh was a topic of our last, has in the past week spoken very eloquently and earnestly for an hour and a half as chairman of the Leeds Literary Society's *soiree*. The hon. baronet commenced with a few remarks upon the wisdom of our ancestors. Those ancestors, had left us writers whom we might strive to emulate, but whom we never could surpass; a political constitution which we might enlarge or repair but which we could never perhaps altogether change for the better. He then remarked upon the leading characteristics of the age, and said the progress made of late was quite sufficient to justify us as Englishmen. "There is no doubt of the progress we have made in England, but let us moderate our conceit as members of the great family of man. Take down a map of the world, and see how small a portion of it is yet civilized at all. Look at the three ancient quarters of the globe; Africa remains the same domain of savages and wild beasts; Asia has fallen back from the civilization which produced such cities as Nineveh and Babylon; and even in Europe what vast and fertile territories, once the seat of empires, now present only a crude or degenerate civilization. In Spain you pass through valleys of the richest soil; the corn where it is lazily sown withers as it stands. You ask why no use to cut it down; no markets, and no roads. In Italy the arts languish, literature is stifled, men's minds are divided between the most lifeless infidelity and the most abject superstition. In Tuscany, which gave to modern Europe the earliest lessons of literature and freedom, why the very shape of your hat might condemn you to the Austrian's sabre; and the Royal representative of the learned Medici thinks heaven and earth are coming together if an English gentlewoman drops a Bible in the cottage of the poor; while on the borders of the civilized world, happily as yet divided from us by the barriers of nature, the Emperor of all the Russias rules over barbarous millions, and shocks alike the civilization and religion of this century, by affecting the zeal of the crusader to disguise the ambition of the Vandal. Out of all Europe there are only three great races which are in the full vigour of progressive life. The Great Germanic race—in which is included the kindred popu-

lation of the Baltic, such as Sweden and Norway, and the populations, also kindred, of Belgium and Holland—the people of France, and the people of Great Britain." Sir Edward then expressed a desire for the extension of the moral power of England, and proceeded to say that he was always a cordial admirer of mechanics' institutes. He felt prouder of England, and of this calumniated nineteenth century, when he looked at the report of the great institution of Leeds. In conclusion, he eulogized the labouring classes, and denied that habits of trade made men niggardly and selfish. "I and the class and the party to which I belong, regard, not with grudge and hostility, but with anxiety and some awe the immense power which every year, as civilization expands, congregates more and more in the dense parts of manufacturing towns; we do feel that with populations like yours may rest the ultimate solution of some of the gravest of our political and social problems. But sure I am that the surest mode, under Providence, of bringing all problems of existing civilization to a favourable issue, is to proportion intelligence to power. And, perhaps it may be to institutions like this that every year Leeds and Manchester may contrast more and more the alternate ferocity and submission which have been the reproach of Lyons and Marseilles. I have often thought that the ancients endeavoured to convey to us a type of the true moral force in that sublime study of Hercules in repose. You see there the gigantic strength which has achieved such glorious labours evincing the consciousness of its power and the majesty of its calm, while in those mighty arms which have purified earth from its monsters the artist has placed an infant child smiling securely in the face of the benignant God. Keep that image ever before you—it is the type of that power which should belong to knowledge, and which is always gentle in proportion to the victories it achieves."

The speech was greeted with enthusiastic cheers.

Accidents and Offences.

Another valuable vessel has been wrecked. The "Olinda," iron screw-steamer, bound for the Brazils, left the Mersey on Thursday, with a heavy cargo and several passengers. She met a strong head-wind, and, unable to proceed, was driven on the Harry Furlong rocks, about fifteen miles from Holyhead. All the crew and passengers, except seven, have landed safely; but the "Olinda" is a wreck. On the receipt of the news at Liverpool, the steamer "Cambria," and the tug "Dreadnought," were sent to lend assistance. Up to Saturday evening about 200 packages of merchandise were landed from the wreck to the main, and hopes are entertained, should the wind continue in the same direction, to save the entire cargo.

On Thursday night the screw steam-ship "Peterel," which was recently engaged in the New York and Bermuda trade, was totally destroyed by fire, outside the dry dock Glasgow. Her loss is covered by an insurance for £12,000.

On river-side premises, occupied by Messrs. Kelk, builders, was a recently-erected machine, called the "traveller," constructed of wood and iron work, and intended for lifting masses of stone and timber from barges. This machine fell down on Friday, while raising, for the first time, a huge stone. By its fall one man was killed, and several barges sunk.

On Saturday morning, about four o'clock, and for several hours subsequently, a most destructive fire raged on the bank of the Thames, Southwark, causing very great destruction of property. The discovery was made on board the London Fire Steam Float, which was lying nearly opposite. It occurred on the premises of Messrs. Jones, Sells, and Co., coal merchants, Nos. 54, 55, and 56, Bankside. Only a few minutes elapsed before the building, which was composed chiefly of wood, was completely on fire. In the rear of Messrs. Jones and Sells there is a court, called Crown-court, consisting of several houses, occupied by labourers and their families. In a very short period five houses in the court were in flames, all of which, with their contents, were speedily consumed. The poor occupants have lost their all. By great exertions the fire was subdued by about nine o'clock. Nothing could be ascertained as to the origin of the fire, and the loss sustained is estimated at many thousand pounds.

Women often exhibit more courage than the stronger sex, as the following will testify:—On Friday evening, at about six o'clock, Mr. Joseph Clowes, of No. 4, Lloyd-street, Hulme, Manchester, was seized by two men as he was posting a letter at the branch post-office, in the Duke of Bridgewater's offices, in Crown-street, one of whom held him round the neck while the other took his watch. The robber who got the watch was pursued up Silver-street, and in Great Jackson-street Mrs. M'Quin, a shopkeeper, hearing the cry of "Stop thief," seized and held him until he was secured by several men and handed over to the police. The prisoner, John Mack, who had been an associate of thieves, threw the watch away when taken into custody, but it was recovered. He was brought before the Manchester magistrates on Saturday, and committed for trial.

Benjamin M'Donnal, a private in the Fiftieth Regiment, stationed at Devonport, has been accusing himself of two murders; mere inventions, apparently. One victim was a girl, destroyed, as he said, on Roborough Down: when, however, a party of soldiers and constables took him to that wild district, he wearied them by wandering about in every direction, but could not point out the spot where the body lay. M'Donnal persists in his story. The other alleged victim is his own brother-in-law.

Henry Jones has been committed for trial for the murder of a namesake in the Forest of Dean. They met at night; both had been drinking; the prisoner accused the other of intending to rob him; he declares the deceased struck him first, but admits that he then knocked him down, kicked him, and finally stabbed him with a knife.

Postscript.

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

Yesterday, the Queen went to open Parliament in person. Some hours before there was any probability of the Queen leaving Buckingham Palace, the streets and park were lined with crowds of people, embracing almost every class, from the highest to the lowest. Towards one o'clock, the weather improved, and those who came to view the procession, were much more comfortable than they could have expected from the appearance of the morning. The public appearance of her Majesty was the signal for loyal and respectful greetings, which were, however, not so hearty as on former occasions. Here and there hissing might be heard; but these demonstrations were at once drowned in a chorus of cheers, and it was evident that the hissing were a small minority. At several points the cheering was taken up with unusual spirit, and it was noticed that it was louder and more general as her Majesty returned from the Houses of Parliament. The police precautions appear to have been of a very extended character, and there was more military attendance than usual. The state carriage was completely hemmed in by the Guards during its progress to and fro, and it was with difficulty that the spectators could catch a glimpse of her Majesty and her illustrious Consort. The House of Lords was of course crowded. The body of the House and galleries, was occupied by peeresses and their daughters, and other female members of the aristocracy. It was just a quarter after two when her Majesty entered the house, leaning on the arm of Prince Albert, and preceded and followed by the different officers of state. The Royal speech, which was delivered with the usual clearness and emphasis, was then read by her Majesty, after which the House adjourned.

DEBATE ON THE ADDRESS.

On re-assembling at 5 o'clock the address in reply was moved by Lord Carnarvon, and seconded by Lord Ducie.

The Marquis of Clanricarde criticised the foreign policy of the administration, tracing its course and effects, and characterising it as having been secret, vacillating, and unsuccessful.

The Earl of Clarendon thought the noble Marquis would have acted more fairly towards the Government if he had waited a day or two, until the papers on the Eastern question, now being printed, had been laid before Parliament. To Parliament, and to Parliament alone, the Government considered itself responsible, and to Parliament alone could it give complete information on any subject. It might suit other countries which had no Parliament to publish documents in *Gazettes*, but up to the present time this had not been the practice in England. Such a publication, too, might have been disadvantageous to the cause of peace—an object to which, however such a statement might be displeasing to Lord Clanricarde, the Government were not ashamed to say that their efforts had been directed. The noble Earl then entered in detail into the Eastern question, and showed that at first the Government, acting exactly as Lord Clanricarde would have done, on a direct straightforward declaration from the Emperor of Russia, firmly believed that he had no ulterior views on the integrity of Turkey. When that belief was shaken, they did not proceed to extremities, but had exhausted every honourable means to bring about a pacific solution by negotiation. The result was, that the Emperor of Russia had been placed completely in the wrong, while the four great Powers were united in condemnation of his aggression against Turkey. Their collective proposals for terminating the difference between those two Powers were now awaiting an answer from St. Petersburg, and, though he (Lord Clarendon) did not suppose that the Emperor Nicholas would listen to the just demands of the Porte, and though the Government might have to appeal to the country for means to prosecute the war with vigour, he could not think that anything had been lost by the firm but conciliatory policy pursued by England.

Lord Malmesbury condemned the foreign policy of the government.

Lord Grey reserved his opinion upon the Eastern question until the papers were before the House; but at present was by no means convinced that we should have interfered at all in the dispute between Russia and Turkey. He thought the question of reform by no means pressed for immediate solution, and hoped that it would not be allowed to interfere with whatever might be necessary for the vigorous prosecution of the war.

Mr. Digby Seymour rejoiced in the prospective throwing open the coasting trade; Mr. Fagan asked for a reform of Dublin University, and Mr. Hadfield was glad to find that the ecclesiastical courts were to be reformed; but would have much preferred seeing them abolished. Mr. J. Phillimore defended the courts in question.

Mr. D'Israeli compared the tone adopted by the Government when Parliament was prorogued, and the expectations held out of an immediate and satisfactory conclusion of the difference between the Porte and Russia, with the language in the speech from the Throne, which still spoke of negotiations going on, and of hopes of success; and contended that the Government were bound, after what had happened, to assure the House that the object of the negotiations was not in the spirit of the Vienna note, though that note had been held out as not derogatory to the Otto-

man Porte. He thought that if Her Majesty was acting in cordial co-operation, not only with the Emperor of the French, but with the Emperor of Austria and the King of Prussia, the language used in the address was not so firm and explicit as circumstances of the case required.

Looking at the threatening aspect of our foreign relations, he condemned as unwise and unstatesmanlike the policy of introducing reforms not only of the Civil Service, the Ecclesiastical Courts, and the Poor Laws, but even of the House of Commons, which would distract and dissipate the energies of the country when about to embark in war. The present Ministers, however, unhappily pledged themselves to bring in a large measure of Parliamentary reform, and, mad as such a measure might be at this time, they must redeem that pledge. He was ready to support the most stringent measure for putting an end to bribery and corruption, but he would not connect such a measure with one for reconstructing the electoral body—and why was intimidation to be passed over? He repeated that it was unwise at the present time to introduce any measure of Parliamentary reform; but, if such a bill should be laid upon the table, he would attempt to bring about a better adjustment of the manner in which the different classes of the country were represented in that House.

Lord J. Russell, reserving a particular justification of the course pursued by the Government until the papers were in the hands of members, offered a general vindication of their proceedings, and, with regard to the Vienna Note, he observed that it was framed, not by the English Government, but by the Governments of England and France, with additions by the Austrian Government, and the note was accepted as a means by which it was hoped that the interests of Turkey might be reconciled with the pretensions of Russia. He could not, he said, indulge a very confident expectation that the offers now made would be acceded to by Russia; and, however desirous the Government might be to preserve peace, they were not disposed to let that Government so far profit by delay as to take us totally unprepared. Considering the relative position of the different Powers, they had thought it would be an immense advantage if Austria and Prussia could combine with us in preventing war ensuing from the aggression of Russia; and, although their endeavours had not been yet successful, he had great hopes, that the Government of Austria would see how much her interests (which were greater than those of England or France,) as well as those of Europe, were involved in the settlement of this question; and if both Austria and Prussia should ultimately act with England and France, there could be no doubt of an immediate result. Time, therefore, had not been lost in endeavouring to persuade the Government of Austria to take a more enlightened view of the subject. Lord John then called the attention of the House to a matter of great importance, namely, the calumnies which had been spread regarding the Prince Consort. While the charge, he remarked, was generally that of an unconstitutional interference on the part of His Highness, it was generally admitted that there was never a sovereign who acted more strictly within the spirit of the constitution, or who gave her confidence and support more fully to the Ministers of the Crown. Was it not incredible then that while Her Majesty's conduct had been so thoroughly constitutional, her Royal consort should have been all the while acting unconstitutionally? Lord John described the mode in which official intercourse had been carried on with the Queen before and after her marriage; the legal status of the Prince Consort (who was authorized to sit in the Privy Council), and the nature and extent of his Royal Highness's cognizance of public despatches and of State affairs. Her Majesty's communication and constitution with the Prince had been fully authorized by Lord Melbourne; but the most constitutional attention had always been paid to the advice of her Ministers, whose tenure of office depended upon the vote of that House. The late Duke of Wellington, he stated, had been desirous that Prince Albert should succeed him in the command-in-chief of the army; but his Royal Highness declined the post, declaring that his place was to be always near the Queen, and that he should depart from that position if he assumed an office of his own of so much importance. The Duke then expressed a hope that his Royal Highness would pay attention to the state and efficiency of the army; but he never in any way interfered with the patronage, or in the ordinary business of the Horse Guards. Lord John then examined and refuted two specific charges alleged against the Prince—one relating to the appointment of a general officer to the Adjutant-Generalship; another to a supposed attempt to thwart the advice of her Majesty's responsible Ministers on questions of foreign policy; and he showed that both were devoid of a particle of truth.

After a few words from Mr. Walpole who pronounced the charges against Prince Albert "as extravagant as calumnious," and deprecated the introduction of a reform measure, the motion for the address was agreed to, and the House adjourned at 11 o'clock.

Earlier in the evening, in reply to a question put by Sir J. Pakington, Lord J. Russell said, it had been the usual practice for Convocation to meet and be prorogued by the Archbishop, and Lord Aberdeen had communicated his opinion that it was not desirable to depart from this usual course; but the authority of the Crown would not be interposed unless an attempt were made to prolong the sitting of Convocation beyond the next (this) day.

Mr. Hayter announced the order of the proposed Government measures. This day the Chancellor of the Exchequer is to bring in a bill to provide for certain expenses now charged upon the Inland Revenue and Consolidated Fund, and relative to the duties on assessed

taxes. On Friday the resolutions for admitting foreign ships to the coasting trade are to be moved. On Monday next Lord John Russell moves for a Committee of the whole House upon the oaths of allegiance and abjuration. On Friday, February 10, he will bring in a bill to consolidate and amend the laws relating to bribery, treating, and undue influence at the election of members of Parliament, and to amend the law for the trial of election petitions, &c. On the same day the President of the Poor-law Board is to bring in a bill to amend the laws relating to the settlement of the poor in England and Wales. On Monday, the 13th, Lord John Russell moves for leave to bring in a bill further to amend the laws relating to the representation of the people in England and Wales; and the vacating of the seats of members in the House of Commons.

The Earl of Derby, after briefly alluding to the "most awful crisis" in which we are now placed, adverted to some of the minor topics in the Queen's speech, expressing his opinion of the difficulty of dealing beneficially with the law of settlement, declaring his strong doubts of the advantages anticipated from the measures proposed for the Universities, and remarking on the omission of all mention of the great subject of general education, the negotiation still pending with the United States, and the conclusion of the treaty by which the River Plate had been opened to the commerce of the world. He then entered into a criticism of the long negotiation with Russia, which had, as he contended, been so conducted as to lead almost necessarily to its present lamentable conclusion. If, however, war was inevitable, our great object must be to carry it as soon as possible to the most honourable and successful termination, and to this object he would not hesitate to sacrifice all party feeling and party prejudices. No time, however, could be less opportune than the present for the considerations of questions of Parliamentary reform, though the great evils of bribery and intimidation could not be too soon or too summarily dealt with. Turning from public affairs, after a rapid animadversion of what he believed to be the new scheme of reform, Lord Derby called attention to the extraordinary circumstances of Lord Palmerston's retirement from office and his yet more extraordinary return to it.

The Earl of Aberdeen then spoke at some length and with great emphasis, but we regret that in consequence of an accident, we are unable to give a summary of his speech in our present number. The concluding portions of it was devoted to a defence of Prince Albert, against the charges brought against him, in which he was supported by Lord Hardinge.

The Earl of Derby, warmly disclaiming any connexion on the part of the members of the Conservative party with these calumnies against Prince Albert, denied that the Conservative portion of the press was responsible for them, and ascribed their origin and propagation to the *Daily News* and *Morning Advertiser*.

Lord Campbell, viewing the question constitutionally, expressed his opinion that not only as a Privy Councillor, but as the husband of the Sovereign, Prince Albert should be consulted upon public affairs.

The address was then agreed to, and their lordships adjourned.

In the House of Commons, Lord Castlereagh moved, and Mr. Thompson Hankey seconded the address in reply to the royal speech.

Mr. Baillie, so far from blaming the early moderation of the ministry, regretted only that they ended by pledging the blood and treasures of England to the support of the Turkish empire in all its integrity, or rather deformity. Our best efforts, he contended, could but postpone the dissolution of that empire, and we stood committed to an inevitable war, under the disadvantageous circumstance of being wholly unable to control its course.

Mr. Blackett, while deprecating a premature discussion on foreign affairs, commented upon and denounced the system of secrecy, which the Government had so obstinately maintained during the progress of the Turkish controversy.

Col. Sibthorp rebuked the government for the half measures which had rendered war imminent, and characterised the promised reform bill as a mere pretence to purify electoral corruption.

Sir R. Peel expressed his unqualified disapprobation of the mean and subtle policy which had characterized the proceedings of Russia, and condemned all attempts to disturb the harmony which united England and France in a resolution to resist her absorbing policy. The aim of Russia had always been to separate the two countries, in prosecution of her designs upon Turkey, and to lull England into apathy and indifference. While there was a chance of preventing hostilities by negotiation, the Government were justified in resorting to this expedient; but the time had passed when Russia could be permitted to put forth exclusive claims over the Ottoman empire. Sir Robert, after touching upon a few domestic topics, declared that he was prepared to support the policy of the Government.

Mr. Hume said, he should wait for the documents before he formed his opinion upon the Eastern question, and regretted that the Government had not already made them public. He hoped, that if war was inevitable, no loans would be contracted, but that the costs of our armaments would be defrayed within the year.

Mr. H. T. Liddell, briefly adverted to the state of the shipping trade, and to the project of opening that of the coast.

Mr. Serjeant Shee having complained that no mention of Ireland was made in the speech from the throne, and adverted to the landlord and tenant bills, Sir J. Young explained that the bills in question had been stopped in the Upper House last session, when it was intended that they should be re-introduced during the present one.

ABRIDGEMENT OF THE CENSUS RETURNS OF RELIGIOUS WORSHIP.

THE SUPPLEMENT of the NONCONFORMIST of January 4th, 1854, containing a carefully-prepared abridgement of the Official Report and Tables on "Religious Worship," describing the Principal Denominations, and stating the provision for public worship, attendance, destitution, &c., may now be obtained, price 3d.; by post, 4d.

W. FREEMAN, Publisher, 69 Fleet Street.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The following subscriptions are acknowledged by George C. Catterall, on behalf of Martin and Swale, the oppressed overseers of Boroughbridge. James Howell, Esq., Liverpool, £2. J. J. Howell, Esq., Boroughbridge, £1. James Thompson, Esq., Manchester £1.

We beg to announce that it is our intention, during the present year, to give, once in about every Six Weeks, a LITERARY SUPPLEMENT of Eight Pages, containing Reviews of the most Valuable Publications of the day.

The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1854.

SUMMARY.

THE following Speech was yesterday delivered, at the opening of the second Session of the present Parliament, by the Queen in person :—

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I am always happy to meet you in Parliament; and on the present occasion it is with peculiar satisfaction that I recur to your assistance and advice.

The hopes which I expressed at the close of the last session, that a speedy settlement would be effected of the differences existing between Russia and the Ottoman Porte, have not been realized, and I regret to say that a state of warfare has ensued.

I have continued to act in cordial co-operation with the Emperor of the French, and my endeavours, in conjunction with my Allies, to preserve and to restore peace between the contending parties, although hitherto unsuccessful, have been unremitting. I will not fail to persevere in these endeavours; but as the continuance of the war may deeply affect the interests of this country, and of Europe, I think it requisite to make a further augmentation of my naval and military forces, with the view of supporting my representations, and of more effectually contributing to the restoration of peace.

I have directed that the papers explanatory of the negotiations which have taken place upon this subject shall be communicated to you without delay.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

The estimates for the year will be laid before you, and I trust you will find that, consistently with the exigencies of the public service at this juncture, they have been framed with a due regard to economy.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

In the year which has just terminated, the blessing of an abundant harvest has not been vouchsafed to us. By this dispensation of Providence the price of provisions has been enhanced, and the privations of the poor have been increased; but their patience has been exemplary; and the care of the Legislature, evinced by the reduction of taxes affecting the necessities of life, has greatly tended to preserve a spirit of contentment.

I have the satisfaction of announcing to you that the commerce of the country is still prosperous; that trade, both of export and import, has been largely on the increase; and that the revenue of the past year has been more than adequate to the demands of the public service.

I recommend to your consideration a Bill which I have ordered to be framed for opening the coasting-trade of the United Kingdom to the ships of all friendly nations; and I look forward with satisfaction to the removal of the last legislative restriction upon the use of foreign shipping for the benefit of my people.

Communications have been addressed by my command to the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, with reference to the improvements which it may be desirable to effect in their institutions. These communications will be laid before you, and measures will be proposed for your consideration with the view of giving effect to such improvements.

The establishments requisite for the conduct of the Civil Service, and the arrangements bearing upon its condition, have recently been under review; and I shall direct a plan to be laid before you which will have for its object to improve the system of admission, and thereby to increase the efficiency of the service.

The recent measures of legal reform have proved highly beneficial, and the success which has attended them may well encourage you to proceed with further amendments. Bills will be submitted to you for transferring from the Ecclesiastical to the Civil Courts the cognizance of testamentary and of matrimonial causes, and for giving increased efficiency to the Superior Courts of Common Law.

The measures relating to the relief of the poor have of late attracted much of your attention; but there is one branch to which I earnestly direct your attention. The law of settlement impedes the freedom of labour; and if this restraint be relaxed, the workman may be enabled to reap the fruits of his industry, and the interests of capital and of labour will be more firmly united.

Measures will be submitted to you for the amendment of

the laws relating to the representation of the Commons in Parliament.

Recent experience has shown that it is necessary to take more effectual precautions against the evils of bribery, and of corrupt practices at elections. It will also be your duty to consider whether more complete effect may not be given to the principles of the Act of the last reign, whereby reforms were made in the representation of the people in Parliament. In recommending this subject to your consideration, my desire is to remove every cause of just complaint, to increase general confidence in the Legislature, and to give additional stability to the settled institutions of the State.

I submit to your wisdom the consideration of these important subjects; and I pray God to prosper your counsels, and to guide your decisions.

Her Majesty's progress to the House was attended by an unusual concourse of spectators, favoured by a genial winter's day. It had been feared that the popular disaffection towards the Prince Consort might take an offensive form; but though his Royal Highness was certainly greeted here and there by sounds as unwelcome as unusual, the reception of Her Majesty was significantly enthusiastic.

The allegations that have excited the disaffection thus expressed, were a prominent topic in both Houses, at their evening meeting. To categorical questions, categorical replies were given; and testimonies to the propriety of the Prince Consort's demeanour were rendered from the opposition as well as from the ministerial benches.

As we resume with the Session publication of "Notes" taken in the House of Commons, it is only the proceedings in the Lord's that have here to be characterised. Those of last night may be briefly described. Earl Carnarvon, the mover of the Address (to which no objection was taken), made a rather ambitious speech; and the seconder, Earl Ducie, contented himself with a few words. The Earl of Clanricarde criticised with severity the conduct of ministers on the Eastern question, intimating from his own experience of Russian assurances, that decided and prompt defiance should be their reception. Earl Clarendon defended himself and colleagues in a speech which revealed nothing material. The Earl of Malmesbury condemned the reserve which had been exercised towards the English nation, and the consequent suspicion, that had been cast upon France, whose alliance we should highly prize. The Earl of Derby addressed himself to the great domestic topic of the Speech, and while offering co-operation in well-designed measures for the purification of the electoral body, threatened opposition to its enlargement, unless accompanied by a concession to the counties. The Earl of Aberdeen wound up this portion of the debate, which then became colloquial and recriminating.

Her Majesty's Speech, containing nothing more than a general reference to the Eastern question, the speeches of the Cabinet Ministers on this important topic, will be read with all the greater interest. It must be confessed that they do not hold out much prospect of an amicable settlement of the dispute. In referring to the last Vienna proposal, Lord John Russell said:—"I should be misleading the House if I expressed a very confident expectation that the offers now made will be accepted by the Emperor of Russia." The noble lord laid great emphasis on the interests of Austria in this question, and pointed out that, if that Power and Prussia even now assumed a bold and decided attitude, war might yet be averted. Count Orloff is now at Vienna, charged with a special mission from the Emperor of Russia to the German Courts. There is no doubt his object is, if possible, to detach Austria and Prussia from their neutral position, and from that quadruple union by which they bound themselves to defend the integrity of the Ottoman Empire. Should he not succeed, the passage of the Danube by a Russian army is scarcely possible. Of secondary importance—so far at least as the ultimate settlement of the Turkish question is concerned—is the announcement that this day a written reply, the language of which, we are informed, "will not be in any degree less clear and firm than the present conjuncture of affairs and the engagements of the country manifestly demand," will be presented to the Russian ambassadors in Paris and in London, in answer to the last note of the Czar. It is taken for granted that they will both demand their passports.

Amid the excitement of a prospective war, questions of social reform have happily not lost their attraction. The necessity of dealing vigorously with juvenile delinquency has become strikingly manifest during the past week. Liverpool, by its mayor and local celebrities; Glasgow, through its lord provost and eminent citizens; Chester, by a crowded public meeting; and Hull, by a petition signed by nearly ten thousand persons, has invoked the aid of the Legislature to establish reformatory institutions for this long-neglected class. The preponderance of feeling seems to be in favour of such establishments being supported partly by local rates, and partly by public money—thus going beyond the recommendation of the Birmingham Conference which was favourable to a combination of government assistance and voluntary agency. If Ministers do not bring in a measure on their own responsibility, Mr. Adderley will no

doubt take charge of a subject he has made his own. It is to be hoped, however, that in the zeal for reformatory institutions, we shall not lose sight of that fruitful source of juvenile delinquency—the dwellings of the poor.

The education question also will confront us, however disposed we may be to let it rest. A very effective meeting has just been held at Edinburgh, presided over by Lord Panmure, with the view of urging an entire revision of the parochial system now under the management of the Established clergy. A re-organization of the present plan is rendered necessary, not less by the altered position of religious bodies, than by the decreasing income of the schoolmasters. The Scotch National Educationists demand a popular system of education, to be defrayed by rates, under the controul of the rate-payers and heritors, and freed from exclusive clerical controul. It is remarkable that in this movement Free Churchmen, and all sections of Dissenters, are combined; and that even Dr. Candlish deprecates any legislative provision for religion in the forthcoming Government Bill. While Dr. Hampden has been trenchantly condemning the secular scheme, Sir James K. Shuttlesworth has shown unwonted sympathy with the latest form it has assumed, and proposes a conference of all who are interested in the work of education, to devise some common ground of accord, out of which a national system may arise.

That best substitute for the projected Labour Parliament,—the open conference on the labour question convened by the Society of Arts,—was held on Monday; was numerously and influentially attended; and though its only formal result was a petition for a law of limited liability, it masks and promises to promote, a hopeful state of public sentiment.

The French Minister of Finance has just put forth a document showing that the national resources have nearly recovered, under imperial administration, from their gradual invasion by the old dynasty, and from the shock of the Revolution. Louis Napoleon has positively received this year £3,000,000 sterling more than was estimated; and thus only a trifling deficit remains, after a vast extraordinary expenditure, and considerable reductions of the public burdens. The fact is doubly welcome to English ears, as indicating at once that France will not be diverted from the Western alliance by want of means, and that even a lavish despotism finds unlooked-for resources in a liberal policy of finance.

WEEKLY PARLIAMENTARY NOTES.

Not for many years past has the opening of a Parliamentary Session, been looked for with greater eagerness and anxiety than the present. Public feeling, condemned by the secrecy of our diplomatic proceedings to prey upon itself, has gradually worked itself into a state of feverish excitement. Ever since the close of the last Session, in the middle of August, 1853, darkness has shrouded our foreign policy, and the people left uninformed, and conscious of entire helplessness, have surrendered themselves to every sinister report which political malignity has seen fit to originate. A knowledge of facts in the order in which they have turned up might, perhaps, have done something to prevent the irritability which at present exists—and had the mechanism of our foreign movements been as distinctly visible as that of our domestic policy, the public mind might have been far less susceptible of a warlike frenzy, than it seems to be at the present moment. In the absence of positive and accurate information, rumour has been most mischievously and too successfully busy. A portion of the daily press has recklessly traded on the most inflammable passions of the British people—and venturing within the precincts of the palace, has come forth laden with scandal, equally audacious and exciting. Stories the most incredible, affecting the character of the highest subject of the realm have been freely circulated. The Prime Minister and the Prince Consort have been represented as treasonable allies of Russia—and squib, caricature, insinuation, and assumption, have been mercilessly levelled at both. Hence, the feeling of the public has in it a smack of bitterness such as personalities commonly infuse—and the meeting of Parliament has been impatiently anticipated, in the confident expectation that when the veil of diplomatic secrecy is uplifted, scenes and deeds of political delinquency will be revealed, calling for condign and summary chastisement.

The anxious expectation which precluded the opening of Parliament, must not, however, be set down exclusively to the Eastern question, and the supposed conduct of parties at home in reference to it. A new Reform Bill had been solemnly promised. It was known that a committee of the Cabinet had been engaged in licking it into shape. Lord Palmerston had resigned office on the score of its liberality, and had resumed it, it was said, without concession to his Conservative scruples. What sort of a measure would it turn out? How would it be dealt with by the Legislature? Would it be announced in the speech from the throne?

Would it be thrust aside by an outbreak of war? On all these points there has been more solicitude than has made itself audible. For a moment, it may have seemed as if the approach of war had put to flight all immediate care of reform. The appearance, we verily believe is delusive, as recent meetings in the manufacturing districts have testified. Prospects of war, and expectations of reform, have combined to invest the opening of the Session with a peculiar interest; and there were few, perhaps, who recollected that yesterday was appointed for the reassembling of the Legislature, fewer still who heard the Park-guns announce that her Majesty had left her Palace on her way to the House of Lords, who did not feel their hearts beat quicker, and wonder what would be the upshot.

We sauntered down to the House about noon. From the Horse Guards to Palace Yard, the crowd had already begun to assemble, and the "early birds" were taking up the best positions from which to view the royal cortege. Within the New Palace there was profound quiet, disturbed only by the few workpeople in the House of Commons who were just completing their operations. A half dozen members might be met with, in some part or other of the vast range of buildings, but it was plain that they came thus early rather to gratify accompanying friends, than to transact business. At one o'clock, however, the ministerialists began to drop in pretty numerous, and as they covered the floor of the house, friends might be seen exchanging greetings with friends, and mutual congratulation, inquiry, or perhaps badinage, occupied the passing time. Mr. Speaker was announced at half-past one, and immediately afterwards prayers were read. But few minutes elapsed after the retirement of the Chaplain, before the Usher of the Black Rod made his appearance to summon the Commons into the presence of Her Majesty. Of the orderly manner in which the royal command was obeyed, we can say nothing complimentary. Spite of all the pains taken to preserve decorum, there was a rush into the House of Peers very similar to that which may be witnessed outside the opera on a benefit night. The scene within their lordships' chamber was striking and magnificent enough, and although, in consequence of the noise prevailing at the bar, Her Majesty's words could not be distinctly made out, the murmur of her musical voice was audible throughout, varied now and then by fragments of sentences heard with the utmost clearness. This stately ceremonial over, both Houses immediately adjourned till evening.

By five o'clock the House was well filled, and several important notices of motions were given by Mr. Hayter on the part of the Government. Lord John Russell laid upon the table of the House papers relating to the Eastern question, and an understanding seems to have been come to by the heads of parties that a discussion shall be taken on that subject on an early day. The Speaker then read from the Chair the Royal Speech, and the Address, in response, was moved by Lord Castlereagh, member for Kerry, and seconded by Mr. Hankey, member for Peterborough. The speech of the mover was judiciously short—that of the seconder was stiff and long, but not without indications of ability. Mr. Baillie, member for Invernesshire, opened fire for the opposition, and, on the whole, he exhibited a very moderate tone in regard to our foreign policy. Mr. Blackett forcibly condemned our system of secret diplomacy and Col. Sibthorp disgusted the House by a display of characteristic buffoonery. Sir Robert Peel then rose and delivered a short but very telling speech in support of the course pursued by the Administration in relation to the Foreign Affairs of the empire. Here it seemed likely that the short debate would close. No one rose, when the hon. baronet resumed his seat, and cries of "Question, question," from both sides gave hope that the evening would be an unusually short one. But Mr. Hume would have his way, and after him Mr. Liddell of Liverpool, and Serjeant Shee continued a desultory discussion. At length Mr. Disraeli started up, and in his own inimitable manner, criticised with sarcastic severity the general proceedings and proposals of the Government. He was attentively heard throughout, but he failed to produce any deep impression. Lord John Russell followed him in a speech which ably defended the policy of the Administration, and one half of which was devoted to a most interesting and successful vindication of Prince Albert from the outrageous aspersions of the *Morning Advertiser*. This part of his speech was listened to with breathless silence, interrupted only by frequent and vociferous cheering. A few words were added by Mr. Walpole, the Address was carried, and the House adjourned a few minutes before eleven o'clock.

THE QUEEN TO HER PARLIAMENT AND PEOPLE.

THE Royal Speech is at once one of the happiest and the least favoured of periodical productions.

Neither its substance nor its style is exempt from criticism. Yet does it seldom or never obtain the praise which the worst of writers are certain some time to enjoy. The slovenly stiffness of its diction is proverbial; the emptiness of its announcements, a standing satire. It is always sure of an immense and attentive audience—yet only fails to disappoint by virtue of its never exciting hope. It is invariably awaited with impatience—and almost as invariably dismissed with a "Pshaw!"

The string of paragraphs yesterday delivered from the Throne form no striking exception to this general description. Very proper sentiments and very interesting announcements are couched, as usual, in boarding-school English. "A state of warfare," is a form of expression boldly innovating on good models; while a sad lack of invention is indicated by the sameness of the sentence addressed to the Commons, as regularly as the half-yearly "hope that satisfactory progress has been made." The sixteen lines devoted to Parliamentary Reform might be reformed with a view to their "more complete effect;" and in the last clause of the last sentence, a transposition of verbs is clearly demanded. Altogether, we should say, Prince Albert might revise our Queen's Speech without danger to the constitution, and with decided advantage to the public taste.

Trivial as are these blemishes, however, we really believe they are scarcely exceeded in gravity by any that can be detected in the substance of the Speech. It may disappoint in its most impatiently expected section—but the disappointment is to us an agreeable one. That the government is at once intent on peace and prepared for war,—still persevering in efforts to avert a calamity they will yet not shrink from encountering,—we can be only gratified to learn. It would undoubtedly have been more imposing to have proclaimed from the Throne the abandonment of forbearance which has been grossly abused, and to have appealed by the lips of the Sovereign to the heart of the nation; but it was highly creditable, on that very account, to abstain from throwing away the last chance of pacification. There is both dignity and wisdom in the preference of language that expresses less than is meant, to words that might afterwards require to be sustained by acts larger than our present resolutions. To the credit of these qualities her Majesty's advisers are in this case entitled. They have put into her mouth words at once amicable and determinate—words equally removed from bravado and pusillanimity—words that express the only object for which war can rightfully be undertaken; namely, the restoration and establishment of peace.

There is something significant of the new era of political philosophy on which we have entered, that to a compassionate and respectful notice of suffering among the poor, succeeds the announcement of general prosperity, and the recommendation of yet further measures of fiscal improvement. A Bill for opening our coasting trade to the ships of "all friendly nations," is a bill for preventing artificial enhancement of the price of coals. University reform, and the reconstruction of the Civil Service, we are glad to meet in the list of projects actually in prosecution. The announcement of an Ecclesiastical Courts Bill would be the more welcome did we not know that the Bill will only abate a nuisance that should be utterly abolished. Here, too, we miss the topic of Church-rates, rather from the force of association than from any expectation of its presence. So with Education,—of her Majesty's silence on which we do not complain. An alteration of the Law of Settlement is a measure of social amelioration that should be accompanied with an alteration of the Law of Partnership. And in like manner, the introduction of Parliamentary Reform reminds us of the omitted Municipal Reform measure.

Our satisfaction at the fulfilment thus far of Ministerial engagements touching our representative system, is sufficient to excuse the minor omissions we have noticed. An early day is actually fixed (the 13th) for the presentation to the House of a measure, the responsibility of postponing or rejecting which will thenceforth be with themselves. It would be useless to search among the crowd of words in which this announcement is made, for a single suggestion of the spirit in which it will be fulfilled. But having our own definite and fervent convictions of what will alone suffice to "remove every just cause of complaint," and putting also our private interpretation upon the tendency of such legislation "to give additional stability" to all the "institutions of the State,"—we can the better afford to wait for a revelation that to us can have no terrors and scarce any disappointment.

The Speech closes with a sentence that is customary, but not, we believe, conventional—neither a careless conformity to usage nor a mere tribute to public sentiment. The Queen invokes the presence of heavenly influences at the deliberations which she has commanded. None who believe in the existence and accessibility of those unseen powers, can withhold the "Amen" of hearty acquiescence; and even the "disbeliever must acknow-

ledge the reality of the implied disparity between human wisdom and human needs. Never does the British Parliament assemble but so momentous is the interest of its topics, so far-reaching the influence of its resolves, that the strongest understanding may well rejoice in the help which religious faith may bring. And surely now, if ever, should the heart of Britain move with the lips of its Sovereign. Now that the lives of tens of thousands, and the interests of as many millions, may be hung in the balance which England holds—now that the accumulated reasons for internal Reform compete with still larger questions of national existence—now that every decision may be of measureless importance, and a mistake in detail a huge disaster—now, too, that righteous indignation may so easily swell into unholy passion, and the impulse of faction be so easily mistaken for the inspiration of patriotism—surely now should fervent, persistent prayer be made that Divine wisdom may guide the counsels of our senators, and the Divine blessing energize their resolutions.

THE CAUSE OF A GREAT CALAMITY.

THE deliverance of a coroner's jury, sitting near Dublin, has given formal expression to the unanimous judgment of the press, and confirmed the surmises, we were, perhaps, the first to make public, in the terrible case of the "Tayleur" shipwreck.

The direct censure of the jury is confined to the circumstance, that the ship's compasses were not sufficiently protected from the deflecting influence of the ship's material, and that has obedience to the helm was not adequately proved before so large a vessel started with the precious burden of six hundred human beings. Out in the ever perilous channel, in very foul weather—a thick fog, a chopping wind; one of the steepest ships ever launched, was soon found to be ungovernable and astray. Her commander, though of certificated science and skill, seems to have felt baffled in his calculation within twenty-four hours after leaving port, to have had to strive against false reckonings, as well as adverse winds,—to have been unable to execute the ordinary manœuvres of a ship in ordinary time, and so to have fallen upon the destruction he might have confidently hoped to escape. It was the derangement of his compasses that perplexed his judgment, and a fault in the construction of his beautiful ship, that defeated his vigilance and energy. That the "Tayleur's" safety from those artificial perils of the sea, was not tested while a remedy could yet have been applied, is the guilty omission which the jury allege as the cause of an appalling calamity.

On another point of more positive culpability, the verdict is silent and the witnesses are divided. It is stated by two independent narrators of the harrowing story, that from the first there was a general distrust on board of the competency of the crew, "which consisted partly of Lascars and Chinamen, who could neither speak nor understand English"—that "the mate could not get any one to go on the yards to shorten sail," and that "it took nearly three hours to take in the mizen top-sail," while neither "the main top-sails nor the lower sails could be got in at all." The captain admits that the company were of this mongrel composition, and, with scarcely an exception, strangers to him and to one another—but denies that they were timid, or tardy, or in any way incompetent. That the ship was driving about for hours with bursting canvass, is not, however, contradicted,—and that the Orientals leaped ashore the moment the ship struck, not stopping even to take a rope from the stranded hull, is a fact equally well attested and significant. It will scarcely be believed that a crew of average English seamen would have thus exposed their vessel,—an object of superstitious love and pride to the true-hearted mariner,—to the buffetings of the gale; and certainly not that they would have disgraced their craft and country by a desertion as precipitate as heartless. We may, therefore, add to the things in which the "Tayleur's" owners were to blame, that they manned her with a cheap and worthless rabble.

But the grand and fatal defect, which aggravated the culpability of all the rest, and would have left heavy blame had there been nothing else to censure, was the non-provision of means of escape. It was half-past twelve at noon when the vessel struck; there was light enough to descry, a league off, the form of the rock on which she split; there was therefore not the necessary confusion of darkness and surprise, though there was the half hour's agony of apprehension. That the Lascar leaped from the ship's bulwark to a place of safety,—that those who did escape, were nearly all passed on to the coast by a plank or a ladder,—shows how unusual was the facility for gaining the shore. That notwithstanding fully 350 out of 600 perished, is a terrible proof of the utter destitution of means and of plans that prevailed. The ship of course carried boats, and there was of course a cry for them when the fatal shock was felt. The captain is stated to have replied to the natural, though frenzied demand, "Its of no use!" but whether he alluded to the impossibility of their being

lowered or of their reaching a landing-place, does not appear. Still, but a very small exertion of authority, or the appliance of the rudest resources, might have saved every life. It was forty minutes before the ship went down after receiving the blow. The bows were above water fully half that time, after the stern was submerged. That the passengers laid hold of spars and hand-spikes to float themselves ashore, is an indication not less of the simple help that would have sufficed, than of the mad agony they suffered. Had the masts not been of iron, they might have been cut away to form a bridge, as in the recent case of the "Meridian." Had the ship even been crushed into "planks and broken pieces," as was the famous galley that perished in the Adriatic, all, now as then, might have come safe to land. But here was all the strength, grandeur, and beauty of modern naval architecture, without those humble appendages, to which the meanest crafts have often owed deliverance from even a worse condition than that of the "Tayleur" on the Lambay rock.

The conditions of safety at sea, are, without the romance, of maritime disaster, substantially the conditions of safety on land. A burning house and a foundered ship, have perils and opportunities in common. In both, there is danger, imminent and frightful, but in both there is usually time. Five stories are not wrapped in flame as quickly as a taper is lighted—nor does a vessel of two hundred feet in length go down like a mill-stone. In neither case is there time for dalliance—but there is usually time for a ladder to be raised, a rope to be slung, a boat to be launched, or a bridge thrown out; then coolness and courage will suffice for the prevention of the only loss that cannot be retrieved. Nor are these moral conditions of escape nearly so often wanting as are the natural implements with which they must work. There is always one man in a mob brave enough to mount the fire-escape, and people calm enough to hand along the bucket,—always some thoughtful mate or midly to pitch a compass and a quadrant into the long-boat, and even a surgeon Cunningham to fight with grim death for a wife and child, for stranger as well as kinsfolk. Perhaps the most perilous peculiarity of the shipwreck is the number of the imperilled. Panic is easy and dangerous, from the susceptibility of a multitude to the contagion of fear. But how often have hundreds, on whom death was glaring from the crest of every wave, been subdued to submission and orderly activity by the energy of one superior will? Their confidence once gained, their very fears compelled their obedience, and obedience secured their safety. Let every emigrant ship be let it be known that she is so furnished—then will be provided with resources in extremity—and will confidence, the first moral condition of safety, be added to its material aids, and our shores cease to be strewn with the corpses of men, women, and children, who perished because, though within sight of land, they were beyond the reach of help.

GOOD FELLOWSHIP WITH FRANCE.

AMONG the notices for the Session now opened, is one by Mr. Olivera in favour of a reduction of the duties on foreign wines. It is generally known that during the recess, the member for Pontefract has been actively engaged in collecting evidence in support of his intended motion. He has visited the wine districts of France, and has found there, as might naturally be expected, a strong and general feeling in favour of Free-trade. Nor is this impression confined to the cultivators of the vines. A conviction of the commercial advantages of "unrestricted competition," stimulated by the examples of this country, is spreading amongst the mercantile classes, has found open expression in official quarters, and has recently been evinced in a reduction of tariff charges. There is good reason to believe that the Emperor is decidedly partial to a free-trade policy, and would gladly avail himself of any fair pretext for making further advances in that direction. Such an opportunity would be offered by a considerable reduction on our part of the import duties on wine. It would, in fact, be a practical manifestation of the *entente cordiale* which now happily binds together the two nations. Those most conversant with the subject are of opinion that our revenue would suffer but little, as it needs but the removal of fiscal restrictions to lead to a largely-increased consumption of French wines in this country. "Our present consumption (says Mr. Olivera) from all countries being six millions of gallons; if it were in four years to increase tenfold, which is not at all improbable, producing with a 1s. duty, a revenue of £3,000,000, we should require sixty millions of gallons, which France alone, to say nothing of Portugal and Spain, would supply without any effort whatever." The question is one of considerable interest to the temperance reformer. No one can have visited Paris, or any other city of France, without having been struck with the absence of that drunkenness which so lamentably prevails in some of our towns. No doubt that debasing vice prevails in France as well

as elsewhere, but the popular taste runs much less in favour of inebriating drinks than amongst ourselves, whilst in the wine districts sobriety is the general characteristic. Mr. Olivera reports, as the result of his recent observations and inquiries, that amongst the people, whose only beverage is wine, intemperance is almost unknown. The light wines of France contain too little alcohol to please the palate vitiated by stronger stimulants. As, therefore, the passing of a Maine Liquor Law will, by the most enthusiastic teetotaler, be admitted to be hopeless for many years to come, the cause of temperance might, we think, be considerably advanced by the substitution of the milder beverages of our neighbours, for the pernicious compounds consumed as "spirits and beer" by the bulk of Englishmen. The present annual produce of France is stated at 900,000,000 gallons, while the capacity of increase is virtually illimitable. We are glad to observe that a public meeting, in furtherance of Mr. Olivera's object, is about to be held in the City, and shall be pleased to report that his indefatigable exertions are crowned with success during the present session of Parliament.

REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS.

The subject of juvenile delinquency, and the necessity for checking it by reformatory institutions, brought together, at the summons of the Mayor of Liverpool, a number of local notables, not, perhaps, ever seen on the platform before. Under the presidency of the Mayor were, Dr. McNeile, Dr. Goss, the coadjutor Roman Catholic Bishop, the Reverend Rector Campbell, the Reverend James Martineau, Mr. William Brown M.P., Mr. Horsfall M.P., Mr. Joseph Pollock, the Judge of the County Court, and Mr. Mansfield, the stipendiary Magistrate. These gentlemen addressed the meeting; and resolutions were carried unanimously, that reformatory institutions should be established for children in lieu of prisons, and supported by the Government funds. It was also resolved to petition Parliament.

The annual meeting of the Birmingham Reformatory Institution was held on Tuesday, in the school-room at Saliley; Lord Calthorpe in the chair. Mr. Adderley also was present. It appears that the expenses have outstripped the income of the Institution. The Honourable and Reverend W. H. Lytton moved for the appointment of a committee to take steps towards the establishment of a reformatory school for girls. Mr. Wright, who seconded the motion, said that if it were adopted, Mr. Jonah Mason, of the firm of Elkington and Mason, would give £1,000 and subscribe £100 a year towards its support; and that Miss Burdett Coutts and Mr. W. Chance had each offered 100 guineas towards the same object. The motion was carried unanimously.

At a meeting held in Glasgow, on Tuesday—the Lord Provost in the chair—it was resolved, that the success which has attended the Houses of Refuge in that city is satisfactory proof that reformatory institutions are the best means of remedying the evils of juvenile depravity; and that the chairman should draw up a memorial to the Government, and petitions to both Houses of Parliament, praying that a bill might be brought in to establish such institutions in the manner recommended by the Committee of the House of Commons. The Chairman, the Reverend N. McLeod, Mr. Sheriff Bell, and Sir Archibald Alison were the principal speakers.

An important meeting at Chester, on Thursday, declared the necessity of establishing reformatory institutions for juvenile delinquents, to be sustained partly by local rates and partly by public support. Besides, many persons of local influence, there were present Lord de Tabley, chairman, the Bishop of Chester, and Lord Robert Grosvenor.

The Sheffield Board of Guardians project the establishment of an Industrial Training School in connexion with the workhouse under their jurisdiction.

CORN EXCHANGE, MARK-LANE, Wednesday, Feb. 1st.

We have but little doing on our Market to-day, prices as on Monday. Arrivals this week:—English wheat, 380; barley, 510; oats, 30 qrs.; flour, 530 sacks.—Foreign, wheat, 2600; barley, 130; oats, 300 qrs.—6940 bbls.

RUSSIA—ITS EMPEROR, PEOPLE, AND GOVERNMENT.

(By a recent visitor to St. Petersburg.)

Edinburgh, Jan., 1854.

IN November last I returned from St. Petersburg, where I had spent the summer. The dispute which then occupied men's minds fills them still. All eyes turn to Russia, and a word or two on the subject may not be displeasing to your readers.

I found in the city of the Tsar an English population, amounting, as far as I could learn, to more than two thousand. Of these persons, some are merchants, some are tradesmen, and some are mechanics. Of the two first-named classes, many have, for purposes of trade, become, almost unavoidably, Russian subjects. It is well understood, however, that they do so simply on account of business, and that they can undo such a tie when they are so disposed. The last-named class are in the employment of their own countrymen, or in the service of the Emperor.

Russia cannot get on without British enterprise and skill, any more than she can get on without access to British markets. Her commerce is largely conducted by our countrymen, and her people have not knowledge enough among them to build a good war-steamer without similar assistance. That Russia is strong in the number of men whom she can bring on to a field of battle admits of no doubt, but that she is miserably deficient in industrial intelligence and commercial enterprise, is equally unquestionable. What are the facts? Her export trade is managed by foreigners, and her great factories and arsenals are in their hands. At Alexandroffsky, the cotton factories belong to Englishmen, and the Government work is managed by Americans. The great railroad between Petersburg and Moscow is committed to an American, and at the stations along the line, Americans and Englishmen are in charge. In the dockyards at Cronstadt, English engineers are busy, and the new and vast foundries just built there, would have been put into an Englishman's hands, ere now, if he and the authorities could agree about the salary. At Colpina an Englishman has charge, and under him, Englishmen superintend various departments.

It is true, that, during the last summer, several of our fellow subjects formerly so employed were paid off; but they had been chiefly occupied in minor parts, where some mechanical skill was needed, but where the demand for originality was comparatively small. Yet, even in these cases, the men were dismissed, not so much because they could be easily dispensed with, as because their pay was higher than that which natives asked, and because the Grand Duke Constantine hates England with a perfect hatred, and was willing rather to blunder on with bunglers of his own race, than go swimmingly with men of ours. Russia does not like Britain, and for years has been courteous to her, just because she fears and cannot do without her.

To show that the Emperor is very helpless at home, in all the higher walks of invention and construction, I need only remind the reader that, at this moment, our kind brethren across the Atlantic are building a number of war-steamers for him, because his own people could not do so. Moreover, I have lately learned that, in the prospect of a war, every effort has been made to retain in his service those very Englishmen who were threatening to leave it. But a few weeks ago, his son Constantine sent for one who has long managed a great Government work, and urged him to remain. The gentleman in question, properly enough, pleaded the unnaturalness of the position he was invited to retain. So eager, however, was the youth, that he bade him name his own terms, and did all in his power to overcome his scruples, both by golden and other arguments, with what success I cannot yet say. Thus is it manifest that, if they cannot walk alone in time of peace, they feel incapable of doing so even on the brink of war, and are glad to beseech the aid of the sons of that very people with whom they seem about to engage in deadliest strife.

The position of our countrymen in the event of a war, may well create anxiety. The *Times* has lately written respecting the language of treaties in this matter. The most explicit treaty cannot, however, relieve us or them from anxiety. That the Emperor himself respects them is well known. That he should do so is as manifest, for they undoubtedly form a most important portion of the inhabitants of his capital, both because of their intelligence and their worth. But all this may not avail them. Even those who, for the purposes of commerce, have so far naturalized themselves, may fail in securing their safety in the hour of need, since the masses may rise and put them to sorrow. In a time of peace, Russia has no people;

ut I fear, and our countrymen in that land fear, that in the heat of strife a people would be found, powerful then in proportion as they are at other times weak, and uncontrollable then, in proportion as at other times they are helpless beneath the iron heel of despotism. Should our fleet invest Cronstadt, then I presume the Imperial family would go to Moscow. What, in such an event, must be the position of the British residents? Manifestly one in which they would be exposed to hourly insult and imminent danger. Let no man shut his eyes to the fact, notorious to all who know anything of Russia, that this war, if there be war, will be with the millions a religious one, and that already their fanaticism, so mighty in 1812, is rising, and only needs the report of a British cannon on the Neva to make it overflow. I am indeed uneasy about our countrymen in Petersburg.

Some may say, why don't they leave? I answer, they do not because the mass of them cannot. What can they do were they to come here? They will be compelled to remain where they are by the force of their circumstances.

At this moment there are in Britain some whose commercial homes are at St. Petersburg. Such do not now think of returning, and are in great suspense; for, while they can do nothing to promote the business in which they have been hitherto engaged, they hesitate to direct their energies into other channels. Those whom they have left behind hold their breath in the same way.

I am assured by friends, constantly corresponding, and intimately connected with Russia, that the nobles incline to peace. They know well, that heavy contributions will be levied on them. They know, likewise, that a war which must ruin their commerce, will, by this means alone, empty their pockets, filled as they are by the sale of the produce raised on their estates. And now comes the question—with a fearful, dissatisfied, and unprincipled nobility about him, how long may Nicholas live? He, himself, seems to fear the worst, now that he has been making his will. The fate of his father Paul is before his eyes. He cannot pass the Foutanka Palace without seeing the windows of the chamber in which that tyrant expired. Not long ago he said to his son Alexander, "I have not got an honest dog about me;" and for once, at least, he told the truth. The common people love their Emperor, but the magnates both fear and hate him. Already men say that he never sleeps twice in the same bed. Thus do "coming events cast their shadows before;" and the mighty Tzar must enter on strife, calculating the probabilities of his own destruction.

Much has been said about the emptiness of his exchequer. His church, however, is in his hands; and even were she not, is at this moment willing to give him her wealth, to aid in a cause which she believes is for her extension. While, however, this may for a time help and embolden him, it need not frighten us. Any money lying in the coffers of the church will soon be used up; while the fact remains, that her supplies, like those of the nobles, will be cut off, and from the same cause. All things lead me to believe that, should war really begin, and be vigorously prosecuted by us and our allies, it will speedily terminate from the sheer exhaustion of our bulky opponent. And may we not hope that something more than peace shall flow from this prostration? Should the Emperor survive the humiliation of his country, may we not suppose that his foes and his subjects alike, will wring from him such concessions as shall limit his power both at home and abroad? Russia is the last great barbarous country in the world, and now rushes forward to overthrow, not liberty, but herself.

It is high time there should be some change. A visit to the country will convince any man of this. Before you land, the air smells of despotism. When you do land, you perceive its image at every corner. Mounted *gens d'armes*, fierce looking Cossacks, swarms of officers, some on foot, some on horseback, crowds of cadets, dressed in uniforms, all training to shed blood, fill the streets; and in strong contrast with these, masses of dirty, degraded, men and women, offend every sense. You see but two classes, the rulers and the ruled, the privileged and the slaves. Middlemen are nowhere seen, and do nowhere exist. The millions are serfs.

But more striking proofs than these are soon afforded you. You get into your hotel, and your landlord asks your passport, that he may take it to the police. You give it, and forthwith are written down in their books, and numbered amongst those whom they may and do watch. You are now completely in their power. Your going out and your coming in is known to them, and in many cases is fully known. Spies are on all sides.

The servants at your table may be spies. The people you meet with may be spies. Thus you are compelled to speak in softened tones. Politics must be eschewed. Your friends warn you to be careful, and, by their example, impress the lesson on you every hour. Wherever you are, at home or in the street, on board the steamer or in a railway carriage, you feel that you must be guarded lest you be overheard. All this may seem an exaggeration, but it is strictly true. I am sure I underestimate rather than otherwise, the amount of espionage to which we are subjected in Petersburg.

I one day made inquiries about an English teacher, who had recently arrived, anxious to know if he had got any thing to do. I was informed that he had been, on divers pretexts, refused a license to teach. My informant told me that her husband asked one of the clerks, whom he knew, how and why it was that this teacher was refused permission to pursue his avocation. "Well," said the official, "the truth is, we have heard about him from different capitals in Europe; and we understand that he is very prone to speak about politics." Note, how complete the system, and how extended its ramifications, when this poor man was dogged in such a fashion. On another occasion, after the breaking up of a dinner party, I sat alone with my port. The gentlemen who had just gone, had discussed politics very freely. "It's very dangerous this," said my friend. "I do not think the servant knows a word that passed, but how can I be sure that some fellow does not sometimes plant himself outside my door?" Spies are sent every now and then into our British places of worship. Thus is the Government supported by treachery, and suspicion is at once its weakness and its defence.

The censorship of the press is another thing which forcibly strikes one. No newspaper can enter Russia, save those which are ordered through their own post-office. By this means, they admit just those which please them, and can cut and carve on each paper at will. And they do so in a wonderful fashion. Your paper is sent you. You open it, and find half a leader rubbed out with pumice stone, or half a page cut out altogether. And this, not with one man, but with all; not with one paper, but with each, week after week, as often as any thing can be found adverse to Nicholas, or his notion of politics. Hence the English and all others are ignorant of what passes, just in proportion as events are most interesting to them. Any thing they know comes from the privileged few, who get a peep at the papers of the Embassy or Consulate, and retail what they have gathered to the eager inquirers. The best lecture that could be read on despotism in Russia, would be provided, by simply exhibiting a mutilated, riddled English newspaper, as it comes out of the censor's office. As for books, if the examiner doesn't pass them, he keeps them altogether; and if he does, sends them back, often destroyed by the rough usage of the savages he has about him, with the back split up in one case, or a nail driven through the middle of the volume in another.

Whether is war or tyranny the greater curse? Whether is the peace of death, the torpor of sixty millions of souls, or the convulsion which may tend to move them, the greater evil? Verily, I am no advocate for war, but if God please to permit it, then I pray that God may bless it for the healing of the nations.

I was greatly interested by my stay in Russia. I saw much that can only be seen there, and came back more pleased with Britain than before. Never much of a grumbler, a peep at that country made me thoroughly contented with my own. And I would humbly suggest to all splenetic souls, who can only see faults in our own happy land, that they would go as soon as they can to the one I have left. Let them stay awhile, and learn what is to be learnt. The most important truth they will bring back with them will be, that God has greatly favoured us, and that we should rest satisfied with, and happy in our lot.

G.

INCOMPETENCE OF INDIAN OFFICIALS.

[The following extracts from a letter by an experienced gentleman in India in the Company's employ, will be read with interest.]

An able writer has called attention to the folly and injustice of sending us out poverty-stricken noblemen for governors: perhaps it is (as Lord Grey says) not always an easy matter to find men of ability and experience ready and willing to take an appointment of eight or ten thousand a-year in a distant colony. Still, I think, the present arrangements might be vastly improved. How is it the Governorship of subordinate Presidencies is not more frequently conferred on distinguished public servants, who have

spent many years of their lives in India? No service in the world has produced so many able administrators as the East India Company's: take as examples, Lord Metcalfe, Sir George Clarke, Sir G. Anderson, Mr. Robertson, Mr. Thomason, the Laurences, Macnaughton, Nott, Pollock, &c., &c. No one doubts the loyalty of these men, or supposes it one whit lower than that of Lords Falkland and Elphinstone, or any of that class; whilst the latter from utter ignorance of the duties they are to perform become the tools of intrigue, or are guided entirely by a sharp secretary. Men, such as I have named, would come to the work fully informed on every possible subject which could be laid before them and from having worked steadily up through all the different gradations of rank and duty, would bring to their high stations practical knowledge and tried ability. Why does no energetic member of the Commons give this subject an airing? If the House can look into and examine every wheel, lever, and spring of this great Government, surely they might also examine the head and hand that is to guide the machinery. I fear it is no uncommon thing to send to the British Colonies for Governors *hands only*, without any head; but such things ought not to be. I lay great stress on this subject, because until a reform is effected here, we cannot consistently take up the next point, which might employ Mr. Bright for half an hour the next time he speaks to the House on Indian affairs. When an appointment of Governor of a Colony is made by the ministers of the day, why should not the country and the Commons be privileged to inquire into the fitness of the person mentioned? It seems impossible to imagine that forty or fifty men, capable of being Viceroy, are not to be found in the United Kingdom. It may be said, men always are found. Very true; but the only test of their fitness, which is now-a-days required, is that they should belong to the nobility, and be connected with a minister. Now that the debates on the India Bill are at an end, and it has become law, it is only just to remark, what struck me most of all in reading them—it was the *total ignorance* of the practical bearings of the subject displayed by the men who addressed the House most frequently and at greatest length. I would almost pledge my word that their speeches were "made" up from some History of India, or from one of the Calcutta scurrilous daily paper authorities, no more to be trusted than the *Morning Herald*, or the writer of the political article in Blackwood. In conclusion, let me suggest that Indian reformers might ask for a return of all political agents in the three presidencies—the qualifications required of men on entering the political department—the rates of pay they receive—the rules of promotion in that department, &c., &c. Here is a very wide field which no one member of either House once alluded to, during the whole of the debates on the India Bill. There are doubtless, some of these "agencies" which might be abolished altogether; there are some of them much too highly paid. One man has a large and onerous charge, extending over a wide tract of country, and entailing very heavy duties, and his pay is perhaps less than another officer's with a mere fraction of the labour and responsibility which attach to his appointment. Then, again, an appointment is sometimes maintained at a cost of £1,800 or £2,000 a year, until the present incumbent voluntarily vacates it, or until he dies, the only reason being that he is unfit for any other appointment, the Government forgetting that in the one he now holds this unfit gentleman is doing all kinds of harm. I have seen more than one of this description of officers, who could neither read or write a syllable in any one of the native languages, and I have seen them attach their signature to dozens of official documents without attempting to decipher a line; ay, more I have seen a political put his name to a blank sheet of paper, and send it to his moonshie, pundit, or mootsuddie, to fill up and despatch! In my next I will tell you what I think should be done to improve this department.

THE WEST INDIA COLONIES.

JAMAICA AS COMPARED WITH BARBADOES.

There is an error in the statement in our last as to the time at which Barbadoes was uninhabited. It should have been 250 years ago, and not a quarter of a century.

Files of Barbadoes and Jamaica papers are now before us. In a speech delivered in the Jamaica House of Assembly, an hon. member (Mr. Walters), as reported in the *Morning Journal*, describes the magistracy of that island as composed, "in a great measure, of mere birds of passage, with no fixed abode, travelling from parish to parish—from town to town—with no visible means of obtaining their livelihood. Many of them were common book-keepers and broken down overseers, liable to be discharged at a

moment's notice—men who 'left their country for their country's good'—men of no character themselves, associated with individuals just as characterless—men bankrupt alike in reputation as in fortune. Such were the men in Jamaica who were entrusted with the commission of the peace—swindlers, who had resorted to the most infamous schemes in order to rob their creditors, and who, to patch up a rotten reputation, bribed Custodes of parishes to recommend them as justices of the peace. Nay, more, felons, who had been worked in chains on the public highway had succeeded in obtaining commissions. Mr. Walters being called upon to "Name," gave the names of several persons answering to this description. Surely it becomes the Duke of Newcastle to ascertain the truth of these assertions, and if there be any foundation for them, to enlarge, once more, the stipendiary magistracy, in justice to the emancipated classes. In this case greater care will, it may be hoped, be exercised than with the magistrates selected to carry out the Abolition Law, many of whom were very ill-qualified for their duties, and full of prejudices against the law they were sent to administer.

The *Morning Journal* of Jamaica contains a letter from Dr. Chamberlayne, who, if we are not mistaken, is Surgeon-General, and a magistrate. He describes Jamaica as "a country where legislation, humanity, and civilization appear to be at their lowest ebb: where crime, selfishness, vice, idleness, filth, villany, and poverty are rampant, and prevail in all directions; where confidence between man and man is completely destroyed; where the perpetrators of corruption, perjury, fraud and dishonesty, instead of meeting with reprobation and punishment, are elevated, patronised, promoted and praised; where culpable apathy and a lethargic indifference in all matters of disease, filth, and malady—open and undisguised immorality, obscenity, squatting, and prostitution, and other abominations reign supreme and uncontrolled, disfiguring and blurring the land, by the neglect to enforce the laws, or to put into operation the very processes pointed out by nature, only to be spurned by civilized men."

If these are true representations of the characters of the magistracy and the condition of the people, how can prosperity be expected? If they are not true, what are we to think of those who have made, and allowed them to be made? Is it not time that the landed proprietors of Jamaica should visit that country, and look to the state of the peasantry, themselves becoming magistrates and legislators, if it be only with a view to the preservation of their property? If they cannot do this, why do they not lease their estates to men from this country, of intelligence and respectable character? The true Anglo-Saxon blood, and English intelligence, enterprise, and integrity, seem to be greatly needed in the West Indies.

In Barbadoes, a very large proportion of the land-owners reside with their families on the estates, and this is no doubt one of the reasons of a difference in the produce of the estates, and the condition of the public revenue, of a very remarkable kind. Be it remembered, that naturally Jamaica is by far the finest island of the two, and also the most extensive. The extent of Barbadoes is 167 square miles; of Jamaica, 6,250 square miles. The population of Barbadoes is 137,000; of Jamaica, 465,000. In Barbadoes the exports of sugar have increased from £384,971 in 1833, to £743,666 in 1862; whereas in Jamaica they have diminished from \$1,256,791 in 1833, to \$511,263 in 1862.

For this striking difference there must be some cause. As to freedom, both from slavery and protection, they are the same in both cases. Let the Government and Parliament try to ascertain the cause.

There lies before us a report from the Jamaica General Board of Health, signed by the President of the Council, J. G. Gayleard; the Speaker of the House of Assembly, C. M. L. Morales; the Commander of the Engineers, P. Yules; and the President of the College of Physicians, L. Q. Bowerbank, dated 29th November, 1861, and published by order of the House of Assembly. Can anything be more striking, authoritative, or conclusive?

Absenteeism (says the report) is at an end. Proprietors, to reap any benefit from possessing, must make Jamaica their home—they must reside here—they must be content with limited means. Had this been done some years back, the state of Jamaica would have been different now; the most beautiful island in the Caribbean Sea would have been able to boast of cities as great and as wealthy as the Havanna. The time has now arrived when, to save ourselves from utter ruin, we must be up and doing, we must cast off that apathy which has so long distinguished us as a community—which has made the Oreole a bye-word among the nations—which hangs as a veil over all his undertakings, and is visible throughout all the departments and workings of our Constitution—mars the usefulness of all our public improvements, and is too evident in all the concerns of private life. It is useless to cry out for more labourers, or for immigration; where are the thirty and odd thousand beings who, this time last year, were among us? Before we import others to supply their place, let us ascertain why it is our population has not increased—why has immigration so signally failed? Let us search out the number of those who daily and hourly die from the effects of preventable causes; let us apply the remedy that experience assures us does exist; let the mouldering bones of hundreds of immigrants, victims of misplaced confidence, cause those in authority to pause ere they, by their sanction, delude others—ere they hold out promises which cannot be realized. Examine the present sanitary condition of the island; mark the fact, that districts of twenty, thirty, and forty square miles in extent exist without a single qualified medical practitioner; observe the fact, that the existing laws, meagre as they are as relates to sanitary matters, are

daily broken, are put to open defiance in our very houses and thoroughfares. Consider this, and few, under such circumstances, can advocate the further introduction of his fellow-men. Correct all this, and then will immigration prove to us a benefit—then will it be a boon to the liberty-crippled American black—a source of temporal and eternal advantage to the African heathen. Till this is done, any further attempt to induce strangers to embark their fortunes here, can be but to disregard the laws of God and man, and, by exposing the deceived to destruction, to bring down greater judgments yet upon the authors of their ruin. As it is, with the population we already have, great difficulties must be anticipated—old habits and darling prejudices must be torn up and rooted out; and, whatever the labour be, it must be done."

Before Sir Henry Barkly left this country he went to see two new and most important inventions, with both which he expressed great satisfaction. The one is Fowler's draining; plough, now worked by steam; and the other an improved set of machinery for the manufacture of sugar. The first is calculated to render further emigration unnecessary; and the other, to prevent that dreadful waste of sugar, to which reference was made in a preceding number. If the land were thoroughly drained, it would not only produce double the quantity of canes, but render the country healthy; whilst the improvements proposed by Mr. Bestimer and Messrs. Oxland in the manufacture of sugar, would, if universally applied, save to Jamaica alone, five thousand tons of sugar annually. This would be worth £90,000 in the market, which is far more than would be required to keep up all the necessary Government establishments, and educate the whole population. It is hardly possible that Sir Henry Barkly should lose sight of these improvements, or that in preference to their adoption, he should sanction any scheme of emigration at the public expense, in the teeth of the report by some of the ablest and best men in the colony, or that he should neglect the purification of the magistracy.

From St. Thomas we learn that there has been a fearful mortality, above 700 persons have been swept off by cholera.

The *West Indian* (Barbadoes) states that the people of St. Kitts are full of apprehensions of a visit from the cholera, which has been brought to the neighbouring island of Nevis by an emigrant ship from Liverpool to New Orleans, which touched there on the passage, having lost twenty-three of those on board by cholera. The people on shore became infected, and it is said about forty have died; most of them blacks. In a letter, dated the 19th, which has been shown to us, it is said that the deaths are from 7 to 12 daily, and the utmost alarm prevails; there is the greatest difficulty to get people to bury the dead, whose corpses have lain on the beach unburied for sixty hours.

In Demerara about a half a million of money has been spent on emigration and a railroad for about twenty miles, but nothing to render the country healthy.

MR. E. MIALI AT ROCHDALE.

It has been the custom with the electors of Rochdale, since they have enjoyed the franchise, to require an annual account of their Parliamentary representatives. Every year Mr. Sharman Crawford faithfully discharged the obligation, and was re-elected by his constituents in public meeting assembled. In conformity with a similar pledge, given before his return for Rochdale, Mr. Miall met his constituents at a very crowded meeting on Wednesday last, in the Public Hall, Baltic-street. The room was filled to overflowing, and probably nearly 2,000 persons were present. Amongst the gentlemen on the platform were Messrs. Jacob Bright, Henry Kelsall, George Ashworth, James Ashworth, Edmund Ashworth, Thomas Booth, W. W. Barton, J. Butterworth, W. Butterworth, James Hoyle, J. Jones, Z. Mellor, John Mason, O. Ormerod, Rev. H. Parkinson, Wm. Petrie, &c. For the following report of the proceedings we are indebted to the *Rochdale Sentinel* and *Manchester Examiner*. Mr. Livsey, the chief constable, was called to the chair, and briefly introduced the business of the evening.

Mr. Miall, who on rising was received with loud applause, then proceeded to address the meeting. He stated that he had come, in accordance with a voluntary pledge which he had given, to submit his conduct to their judgment, and to resign his trust in their hands if they disapproved of his votes in Parliament. At that time he had explained the political principles by which he should be guided. He had since been left to pursue his own course, without being troubled by interference, leaving him entirely to be guided by those considerations that might appear to be important to his own mind. In all respects, save that labour and anxiety which attached to the duty of a representative, they had given him no sort of trouble or anxiety, and he supposed that there were very few who had a real constituency who could say as much. Mr. Miall then proceeded to review the prominent events of the last session, and his votes during that period. The last conflict on the free-trade question, the resignation of the Derby Administration, the policy of the new Government, questions of the Clergy Reserves of Canada, Jewish Disabilities, Church-rates, Maynooth, and Finance, were passed in review. He stated that he refrained from voting on many private bills, such as those connected with railways, and other local measures, because he had not a thorough acquaintance with them, and was afraid to do that which was wrong. If he had, as many had done, voted on a mere impression, or voted from statements made on those questions, the number of his divisions recorded would have been much greater. The last session was one of the longest and most laborious ever known. He believed that the

general business was beneficial to the people at large, and that the fruits have not yet had full time for their development. In future years, when the principles sanctioned in last session shall have put forth their full influence, he fully believed that great amelioration would take place in consequence of what was done during that session of Parliament. In dealing with topics which just now occupy the public mind, he adverted at some length to the Eastern question. Before doing so he felt it necessary to say that, though concurring in the objects of the Peace Society, he could not admit the soundness of its principles.

It appears to me that such principles aim a blow at all government. Government, as I understand it, is the application of the required physical force of a country with a view to the administration of justice, and if that force may be properly applied to right that which is wrong, then I think it may be applied to resist the wrong doing. It is not sufficient that the constable takes the burglar and drags him through the street; if the burglar resist, then the constable must exercise as much force as is necessary to overcome the opposition. If insurrection, riot, insubordination, arise, whilst the burglar is being dragged through the street, then it behoves the Government to send such protection as is requisite; and I cannot see even why life may not be taken in order that the authority of the law may be maintained. Well, that which is true of our internal action is true with regard to our external relations. If an invader were to come on these shores to plunder or spread desolation, I should consider myself bound by all the means with which I have been endowed, to resist the invader to the utmost. But whilst I am not a member of the Peace Society, I have taken an active part with the Peace Congress—that is, I have felt it my duty to teach the folly and wickedness of war—to put down all incitement to war—to endeavour to come to an arrangement with other nations for the gradual dismissal of their armies—and to insert clauses in all future treaties that disputed questions shall be settled by arbitration. I believe such a course to be a practical and rational course. I look upon war as a great calamity, the full power and mischief of which none can possibly estimate. I know well that, albeit despotism and tyranny may produce in the end, perhaps, more wickedness, demoralisation, and infinitely more misery, than war itself; like typhus fever, it may quietly proceed onwards in its mischief, while war, like cholera, may possibly cause us to look at our case, the awfulness of its results, and to ascertain whence the evil comes. But, with all these opinions, I think it the duty of every honest man and christian to beware of giving sanction to a war policy, not rendered necessary for self-defence, nor likely to be beneficial to the interests of humanity at large. [Hear hear.]

He would inquire whether their general policy in relation to this Eastern question was entitled to support. It had been said by Lord John Russell that the policy of this country was to maintain intact the integrity of the Turkish empire. But to maintain the independency of Turkey was to maintain that no other rule than that which is there now shall be allowed. Whatever is done, the land of Turkey will remain, and whatever was their decision, with the land the people would remain. Did the Government then possess all the qualities of a good government that it should be sustained? What were governments and dynasties in comparison with the welfare of the great mass of the people. It mattered very little what was the form of government of the people, if they were ground down into misery and slavery. What were the facts? The people of Turkey consist of a great majority of Greek Christians—the minority are Turks. The Turkish were the ruling power—the Christians were slaves—they could hold no office—and until within the last six months, their evidence was not taken in a court of law against a Turk. In Turkey there had been Pashas appointed whose object was to get as much out of the people as possible, no one daring to complain. Then if it is for the maintenance of this system, he did not think it was worthy of the means they would employ. What had been the condition of Turkey until now? So bad that there was scarcely a road six miles out of Constantinople. Every thing was passing to ruin—the country was being filled up with waste and jungle—the towns thinly scattered. What was their commerce? There was scarcely a Turkish merchant who had a ship of his own. Commerce was under the management and control of the Greek population. There was no enterprise or vitality in those who rule over the inhabitants. Though Russia had been a tyrant and a bully, he did not think it was the wisest thing to go to war every time one's indignation was excited. If they were to interfere in the matter of Turkey because Russia is doing an insolent thing, why did they not do so in regard to Hungary and Italy? Why do we not abolish the Papedom? Any one of these was quite as worthy of their sympathy, if they were to take a word in hand to carry out what they thought desirable for humanity at large. So long as they kept Turkey in its position, and maintained the Ottoman rule there, they should never be safe from war. The consequences of war were incalculable. They might not gain the object at which they aimed. His own fear was, that by the contest they would cause an amount of bloodshed, misery, demoralisation, and expense which cannot be estimated; and that the end will be disastrous to both. They will take good care that the people shall not get much benefit. It always has been so, and was so in the French war.

I fear that, after all, war may be inevitable. I fear it. And mark: If we have entered into any engagements by which we have declared that we will stand by Turkey—if Turkey has taken her present course owing to our advice and our instigation—if we have led her thus far forward with the assurance that she shall have our material aid—if our Government, by secret diplomacy, have in any way guaranteed the national faith and the national honour to enter into this war—then I would say nothing whatever against it. We must certainly fulfil our pledges; we must maintain our honour. But I shall lament, seriously lament, the necessity. I know that it is not popular in this country, but I honour the present Administration for having done so much and so earnestly to keep the country out of this great calamity. (Hear.) I know it is said that if we had only taken a decided and bold atti-

tude in the commencement of this conflict, Russia would have retreated, and no war at all would have been necessary; and it is not for me to say that such would not have been the case. I pretend not to see into futurity; nor would I presume to say that if such and such things had been done, such and such consequences might not have ensued. But I put it to any man in this meeting, that, if he were the Minister of this country, and if upon his word devolved the awful responsibility of bidding all the miseries of war enter into the country and ravage the substance of the people—I ask him whether he would not have done everything in his power to have prevented war, and make every concession rather than have taken a step which might have involved us in it? I honour the men who have taken this responsibility so much, that they have endeavoured to exhaust all the resources of pacific negotiation, rather than involve their country in all the miseries of this conflict. But then, gentlemen, if we are to have a war, my feeling is this: we must go at it vigorously. (Hear, hear.) I don't know anything that is more likely to protract the war than feebleness in the conduct of it in its commencement. It is of no use to hit, unless you can hit hard (loud cheers and laughter), and unless you can hit home. We shall want to call forth all the material strength of the country in order that we may conduct this contest, if possible, with overwhelming strength, to crush all opposition, and to bring the war to conclusion as speedily as possible. Now, if we must do this we must be prepared, likewise, to bear all the sacrifices which this kind of policy will entail upon us. I, for one, would shrink with the utmost sensitiveness from taking the step that involves us in war; but, being involved in war, I, for one, would make every sacrifice that I can, as an individual, make, in order that the war might be brought to as speedy and successful a termination as possible. Now, are you prepared to do this? And are you prepared to commission me, as your representative in Parliament, to do it for you? In order that the war may be properly carried on, you must put large discretion in the hands of the Executive Government. You must give to them large supplies; and, I think, that if you would carry it on justly, you should carry it on without increasing your debt. Let the expense of every year be paid within the year, that when we come to the end of a war, we may have all the benefits and the advantages of peace. But in order to this, you must be prepared for fresh taxation. No more indirect taxation. It cripples the industry of the country. It is constantly restricting the operations of commerce. It interferes in every way with the development of the people's prosperity. Direct taxation I understand to be, and believe to be, in harmony with the wishes and feelings of the Rochdale people. (Hear, hear.) Well, then, we must have direct taxation year by year as long as the war shall last, to pay the expenses of the war as they are incurred. (Hear.) Gentlemen, I wish to know whether these sentiments—these latter ones especially—are not in entire accordance with your view? I am certain that you don't wish to rush into a war and make your children pay for it; and that the magnanimity and heroism that you would have displayed by this country in saving Turkey from the gripe of her tyrannical foe, will lead you to make any present sacrifice in order that the end may be accomplished.

Mr. Miall then proceeded to advert to the question of Parliamentary reform, which, if necessary in time of peace, was much more necessary in time of war:—

I believe that the Government of the country at this present moment, and as Parliament is now constituted, is not strong enough to resist the host of jobbers and adventurers which will press around them in case a war ensues. Instantly that there is a war, there will be some millions of money to spend in warlike stores and ammunition, in the equipment of the army, and so on; and there will be instantly a necessity for the promotion of officers, and for a re-organisation, as it were, of the whole army upon a war basis. There are a great many representatives in the House of Commons who have no constituency, or whose constituency is simply the great man, perhaps in the Upper House, who has put them there for the purpose of recording his votes and of serving his interest. These parties will be able at any time to go to a Minister and make bargains with him—insist upon having a portion of the money that has been voted for the armament of the country—not, indeed, as a simple bribe, but in order to purchase this, or in order to do that, whereby they themselves shall be benefited. There will be loan-mongers; there will be army clothiers; there will be gunpowder manufacturers; there will be ironfounders; there will be an immense number of people who will set all the machinery of corruption at work to bring it to bear upon the Government, in order that their interests (whatever may be the interests of the country) may be promoted by the moneys put into the hands of the Government;—and I say: that the votes are so nearly balanced in the House of Commons that Government cannot spare the few parties who may be able to go to them with demands like that. Of all things necessary at such a time as this, if we are to enter into war, I should say reform of the representation is most necessary. In the last war we saw a great immensity of waste, and such will be the case in the present instance, unless with strong and unanimous voice, you demand from the Government, that, as you are about to enter upon a warfare with a formidable foe, it is absolutely necessary that you should have a real, and not merely a nominal control over your own House. Well, then, gentlemen, what would give you a real control over your own House? As you know, I advocate principles in accordance with what I regard to be the rights of man. I should give votes, not to property, but to persons. (Hear.) I think that every man of sane mind, and unconvicted of crime, has a right to all the advantages of citizenship. (Applause.) But I knew very well that it is impossible that so extensive a measure as this, involving, as I think, sound principles,—say, and sound policy too (for they always go together),—can be carried now. But, gentlemen, we may approximate towards the right; and I think you will agree with me that it would ill-become us, if a large and substantial measure of reform is given to us, putting under the control of the public that which is intended to reflect the mind of the public, we should refuse it, even though it does not go quite so far as we could individually wish. Well, in the first place, I think we are all agreed upon this—that the nomination boroughs—the small boroughs—must be entirely disfranchised, and that the votes in those boroughs must be merged with the votes of the county. I think that we are entirely agreed upon this, that where towns have risen to importance—that is, where they have sufficient population and property to render them of high importance in the

country at large, that they should have a representative bestowed upon them. Then, I take it, that about 90 seats would become vacant; and those 90 seats would have to be bestowed. Well, now, I don't think we ought at present to alter the relationship between counties and towns. I look upon counties as representatives of property acquired and enjoyed, I look upon towns as representatives of property in the process of acquisition. I think, therefore, that the seats which are vacant, and which will be taken from towns, should be conferred upon towns and not upon counties. I believe there are three or four—nay, a dozen—places having a population of upwards of 200,000, and having only two representatives; whilst there are places of a population very little above 4,000 that have likewise two representatives; and I think the calculation was made last night, at the meeting in Manchester, that there are seventy-seven members of the House of Commons who are returned by a population of upwards of six millions; and voters to the amount of, I think, about one million; and there are seventy-seven other members who are returned by a population of only one million, and by voters a very few thousands. Now, such a state of things ought not to continue. We may not be able to get complete equal electoral districts; but I think that we ought to approximate towards it—that is to say, I think that these seats should be conferred upon the largest and most populous and prosperous towns of England and Wales. By this means we should have an entirely different representation of the minds of the people; and when the member for London, or the member for Manchester, or the member for Dublin, should have to speak the voice of his constituents, he will not be neutralised by the member for Andover, or the member for Harwich, getting up and going out into the opposite division lobby. For votes tell there, not according to the number of voices which they include, but simply each one tells for one. I may represent 1,500 electors; another person may represent 120; but in the House of Commons both are of equal value. Now, undoubtedly, this is a system which we ought to put an end to. Let us also extend the franchise; lower it. I should strive for a rating franchise; that everyone that appears on the rate-book of the overseer should have a vote in consequence of his name being there. I think that that would be perfectly fair and safe. Perhaps, under the circumstances, it would suit the people of England at the present time; but certainly, to leave a £10 franchise, which is in fact leaving a line of demarcation, separating between what is called the middle class and what is called the working class, without a vote, would be the height of injustice and impolicy at the present moment. (Cheers.) It would not put an end to the question of reform. On the contrary, it would stimulate the agitation of the question. Well but, gentlemen, we must have an extension of the franchise, not simply in boroughs but in counties; and it has been proposed that, as the £10 householders have hitherto been excluded from the franchise, that they should now enjoy it. I believe all parties pretty nearly agree on that, and I expect that will be one feature of the forthcoming reform bill. But my own opinion is, that no reform will be efficacious—that no Parliament will fairly represent the mind of the country—which has not the ballot. (Applause.) I do not believe that the practice of secret voting would endanger the stability of those institutions which live in the affections and respect of the people. I am prepared to contend, and contend earnestly, for the introduction of the ballot into the next reform bill. (Cheers.) I think we should not leave this to the convenience of any Ministry. I think that, on the contrary if we have the power, we should use the power of compelling the Ministry to adopt it. Nor am I indisposed at all to press the question of triennial Parliaments. It is said, indeed, that we have given that up as one of our points. It is said that we have already virtually triennial Parliaments, for we have, on the average, a Parliament every three years. That may be the case, but averages will not do in the present instance. Well, if we can get all these points, or if we can get the greater part of them—that is, if we can get the disfranchisement of all the nomination boroughs, and the enfranchisement of large towns in their places; if we can get a ten-pound constituency for the county, and an extension of the suffrage to all rated inhabitants, or even to five-pound houses, in the boroughs; and if with this we can have the ballot, and so much the better, if there are thrown into it triennial Parliaments—which, however, we need not expect; if we can get these main points, are you disposed to accept them? Would you throw them away, and confine as we are, until we can get a more comprehensive measure—one in more entire accordance with the principles which you hold? On the whole, I should say that that would be a good standing-point for further agitation. If you can get these, you will so much the more easily get more. (Loud applause.)

A vote of thanks to Mr. Miall for his past conduct, moved by G. Ashworth, Esq., and seconded by H. Kelsall, Esq., was carried with only two dissentients. Mr. Jacob Bright moved that Mr. Miall be instructed to support propositions for a large measure of reform, including manhood suffrage, the ballot, annual Parliaments, and equally-populated electoral districts. In preference to this, the meeting, by a slight majority, carried a vote in favour of the five points of the charter. A warlike motion on the eastern question was proposed by Mr. Wood, but was withdrawn, it being understood that a future meeting, called for the purpose, should consider that question.

THE SUPPRESSED PAMPHLET.

A "suppressed pamphlet" respecting the alleged Court intrigue, has been the occasion of much gossip and ink-spilling. It was alleged by Mr. W. Coningham, in the *Morning Advertiser*, that in 1851, Lord Palmerston was in possession of documentary evidence of the Prince's unconstitutional interference in the foreign affairs of Great Britain; that these documents were entrusted to a well-known baronet (Sir J. Easthope) by whom they were placed in the hands of a writer of some eminence, supposed to be connected with the *Times* newspaper. From these materials he produced, it was said, in eight-and-forty hours a pamphlet, in which these unconstitutional intrigues were exposed. It was printed, and it would have been published in a locality not a hundred miles from Albemarle-street, but at the eleventh hour it was suppressed. The pamphlet in question was entitled "Palmerston,

what has he done?" Its author now states, that when it was suppressed in 1852 by his lordship, it was because he (Lord Palmerston) desired that the vindication of his conduct should be heard in the House of Commons from his own lips, and not out of doors from the pen of any of his friends. "I am most desirous to say that the pamphlet was not written at the instigation of Lord Palmerston, and that his lordship did not know of its existence until, on its completion, I thought it my duty to ask his permission for publication, when his lordship at once begged that it might be suppressed." The pamphlet addressed to Lord John Russell has been printed in the *Times* entire. It contains a defence of Lord Palmerston, a bitter attack on Lord John Russell, and an elaborate commentary on the famous paragraph in the *Breslau Gazette* announcing the probable withdrawal of Lord Palmerston, in consequence of negotiations at Vienna carried on unknown to him, before the event occurred. The passage referring to this last circumstance is the only one bearing upon the alleged court intrigues of the present day, and is to the following effect:—"Who, my Lord, are the 'high personages in England' who have corresponded with foreign Courts without the knowledge of Lord Palmerston?" What personage, however high, dares to usurp the authority of a Minister of State, and, behind his back, to traffic with foreigners, not only against his political existence, but against the dignity, the honour, the independence of this free country? I assured you, my Lord, at starting, that, in asking you the cause of Lord Palmerston's unexpected retirement, I had a nobler object in view than the mere vindication of his personal honour. The character of Lord Palmerston is as nothing in comparison with the good name of the 'high personages' here bespattered with calumny; and even the good name of the highest sinks into insignificance beside the grand and paramount interests of our hitherto unshackled nation. If, my Lord, as it now too plainly appears, that not Napoleon's *coup d'état*, but your own anxiety to adapt the foreign policy of England to the views of certain foreign princes has led directly to the calamitous dismissal of Lord Palmerston, you need no additional pang to increase the remorse which your inconsiderate act must inevitably occasion you. But if, in working the downfall of your colleague, you have not scrupled to employ the names of personages which have hitherto been kept sacred from the turmoil of political agitation, and which can never be appealed to or misused without shaking the whole fabric of the State to its foundations, you have done more to injure the Crown of England, which you have sworn to keep from tarnish, than the sternest demagogue that ever vowed, in his madness, to cut away the monarchy from its moorings;—if by renouncing Lord Palmerston, and by availing yourself, on the instant, of the services of Lord Granville, you have given rise in the hearts of Englishmen to the faintest suspicion that unauthorised hands are dealing with the public interests—that undue influences have been brought to bear upon the nation's policy—that family considerations have been suffered to assume the place of imperial necessities—you will have touched the national sensibilities in the very tenderest point, and awakened a jealousy that, once aroused, shall be slow again to slumber."

The *Morning Advertiser* lately stated that Prince Albert was in intimate correspondence with our Ambassador at Vienna, Lord Westmoreland, in the interest of the House of Cobourg. His lordship now writes to that journal,—"I have not had any communication, directly or indirectly, with the illustrious personage alluded to since I came to Vienna. I never received a letter from the Prince containing one word upon politics, public men, or public affairs. The only letters with which his Royal Highness has honoured me have related to matters of art and benevolence."

THE WRECK OF THE "TAYLEUR."

In our last number we published some brief particulars of this terrible shipwreck on the Irish Coast, resulting in the loss of upwards of 370 lives. The scene that followed the striking of the ship has been vividly narrated by several persons who escaped. "And now began a scene of the most frightful horror: some running below to get what they could; others praying; and taking leave of their friends, wringing their hands, and beseeching them for help. The vessel, after striking, lay so close upon the rocks, that several persons attempted to jump ashore. The first person who jumped on the island struck his head against the rocks, and fell back into the water with his head frightfully cut, and, after struggling for a short time, sank. The next person who jumped from the vessel made good his footing, and was followed by several others—I believe the Chinese and Lascars belonged to the crew. They also succeeded in making good their landing; and as soon as they had done so, scampered with all haste up the rocks, never attempting to assist those on board. Several now swung themselves on the rocks, which were but a few feet from us. I managed to swing myself on shore, and retained the rope in my hand; I passed the end of it to some of those behind, and by this means a great many were enabled to come on shore. To attempt to paint the heart-rending scene on board the ship would be impossible: wives clinging to their husbands—children to their parents—women running wildly about the deck, uttering the most heart-rending cries—many offering all they possessed to persons to get them on shore. Among some of the earliest of the females who attempted to get on shore, were some young Irishwomen: most of them lost their hold of the rope, and fell into the sea. The doctor of the ship, a most noble fellow, struggled hard to save his wife and child; he had succeeded in getting about half to the shore on a rope, holding his child by its clothes in his teeth; but just then the ship lurched outwards, by which the rope was dragged from the hands

of those who held it, on the lower rocks, and was held only by those above, thus running him high in the air, so that the brave fellow could not drop on the rock. Word was now given to lower the rope gently, but those who held it above let it go by the run, and the poor fellow, with his child, was buried in the waves: but in a short time he again appeared above the water, manfully battling with the waves and the portions of the wreck that now floated about him. He at length swam to a ladder hanging by a rope alongside the ship, and got upon it. After he had been there a minute or two, a female floated close to him: he immediately took hold of her, and dragged her on the ladder, tenderly parted the hair from her face, and appeared to be encouraging her; but in another minute she was washed from his hold, and sank almost immediately. He then got up again into the ship, and tried to get his wife on shore: but they both perished. He deserved a better fate! The scene was now most truly awful. The most desperate struggles for life were made by the wretched passengers: great numbers of women jumped overboard, in the vain hope of reaching land; and the ropes were crowded by hundreds, who, in their eagerness, terror, and confusion, frustrated each other's efforts for self-preservation. Many of the females would get half-way and then become unable to proceed further; and, after clinging to the rope for a short time, would be forced from their hold by those who came after them. Three women only, out of two hundred, were saved. One of those had got part of the way across when her legs fell, and she hung some time by her two hands over the foaming waves; her husband then came on the rope, and managed to assist her to the shore. Two men came on shore with children tied to their backs; but of the whole who fell into the water not above five were saved. I saw one fine girl, who, after falling from the rope, managed to get hold of another one which was hanging from the side of the ship, and which she held on to for more than a quarter of an hour, the sea every moment dashing her against the side of the ship; but it was impossible for us to lend her any assistance. Some one got a spar out, by which several got on shore; but it soon broke; and now might be seen hundreds hanging to the bulwarks of the ship, each struggling to get on shore. I saw one young woman hanging on the middle of the rope for some time by her two hands; but those pushing to get on shore, soon sent her to her doom. The ship's stern now began to sink; the ship made a lurch, and all the ropes were snapped asunder. The scene now was most harrowing. Every wave washed off scores at a time—we could see them struggle for a moment, then, tossing their arms, sink to rise no more. At length the whole of the ship sank under water. There was a fearful struggle for a moment, and all, except two who were in the rigging, were gone. The Coast Guard, who had been apprized of the wreck, now came up; but all they could do was to attempt to save the two who were in the rigging. They managed to get a line to one of them, by fastening two lines, at the end of each of which was a piece of wood, to a single line, and guiding it from the rock to the spot where the poor fellow was, so that he could reach it. They then dragged him ashore. There was one fine young fellow left on the top, but they could not reach him, and when he saw them going away, his cries were heart-rending. About two o'clock next morning the Coast Guard managed to reach him, after he had been in the top fourteen hours. You may fancy the poor fellow's joy at his deliverance."

Another passenger states that several escaped across a plank run out from the ship to the shore. The name of the surgeon who struggled so bravely was Cunningham.

On the rude island of Lambay the unfortunate wretches found shelter in the house of Lord Talbot and in the Coast Guard Station. Many were almost naked, and half-starving; many had sprained their legs and bruised themselves. They got potatoes and oatmeal; and some slept at night on straw strewn on the floors. Others encamped in a hollow. The next morning, Sunday, the beach presented a harrowing scene. "Bodies were lying piled one over the other, most of them almost naked; and several persons were getting all they could from the dead bodies." [This has been denied.] About six in the evening, the Prince steamer arrived from Dublin. Lord Talbot de Malahide and Sir Robert Palmer sent provisions and spirits. Boats were sent from the steamer; but as the weather indicated a storm, the sufferers could not be taken on board until Monday. They were then, 283 in number, fetched off by the boats of the Prince, and carried to Dublin. Of the surviving passengers there are 225; of the crew 57, including the captain. But of 200 women and 60 children, only two women and two children were saved.

Up to Thursday, the weather was so boisterous that no inquest could be held. The Coast Guard were very busy in recovering the bodies from the sea. To effect this, they had to "rig a derrick"—that is, set up a mast with a rope and pulley depending over the rocks, as a make-shift crane; while adventurous men descended the rocks and fastened the bodies to the rope.

On Friday, an inquest was held on some of the bodies which had been conveyed to Malahide, but in consequence of the absence of some of the witnesses, it was deferred to the following day. Captain Walker, of the naval department of the Board of Trade, was present to watch proceedings on the part of the government. Lord Talbot De Malahide was present during the inquiry.

Captain Noble, of the wrecked ship, was the first witness called. He was examined at great length, and the drift of his testimony was in accordance with the general description of the wreck given above. He had three life-boats and four long boats on board, which were ready to be launched; but when the vessel struck, no boat could live in the sea that was then

rolling, and he made no attempt to lower any of those boats; at any time from Liverpool he did not experience any obstruction from the want or efficiency of hands, but he found on some occasions that the rudder did not answer to the man at the wheel; his opinion was that the rudder was too small; on the day he left Liverpool, he went ashore and told the owners of the "Tayleur" that she was ready for sea, and that he was anxious to put to sea as the weather seemed favourable; he was appointed to the "Tayleur" by the owners in June last. She was then in the builder's yard where she was built.

Mr. Fitzgibbon, Q.C., stated that he was instructed to state that the owners and charterers of the "Tayleur" would subscribe to the fund now being raised for the relief of the sufferers; and that he was further instructed to state that the owners would give a free passage to any of the survivors who might be disposed to emigrate to Australia.

Captain Noble, on cross-examination by Mr. Coffey, said he engaged the crew himself about a week before she sailed. The entire crew, with the exception of one mate, had been all strangers to him previous to the time he had engaged them, and they were all on board on Wednesday, the day before he sailed. The wages at which he engaged the crew ranged from £3 10s. to £2 a month, and the passengers' steward, the cooks, and the carpenter's mate were engaged at 1s. a month. He made no experiment as to whether the vessel would answer her helm, nor in any other respect did he, or to his knowledge the owners, make any experiment or investigation into the sailing powers of the vessel. An examination of the compasses was made about a week or a fortnight before she sailed, and a trial of the helm was made by the pilot in the tide-way, and she answered to the helm on that occasion, although the trial was not made for the special purpose of testing whether or not she would answer to the helm: the vessel was swung for the purpose of testing the compasses some time in November, and not afterwards; they were then found to be correct; when he found himself at Lambay, he supposed that the compasses were in error, for he found them in the course of the day to be about two points astray; he had three compasses, each of which varied from the other, whereby he could not decide which was right or which was wrong.

Captain Noble having been examined at considerable length, the next witness was Murphy, the chief-mate, at the conclusion of whose evidence the inquiry was adjourned to Monday.

The inquest was brought to a conclusion on Monday evening, when the jury returned the following verdict:—"That the parties were drowned by the sinking of the said ship off Lambay Island, and that this deplorable accident occurred in consequence of the highly culpable neglect of the owners, in permitting the vessel to leave port without compasses properly adjusted, or a sufficient trial having taken place to learn whether she was under the controul of her helm or not; and we find that Captain Noble did not take sufficient precaution to insure the safety of the vessel by rounding to after he found the compasses were in error, but we consider, from the time the vessel came in sight of land, that he acted with coolness and courage, and used every exertion in his power to save the lives of the passengers."

THE WORKING MEN'S EDUCATIONAL UNION.

It will be remembered that the Working Men's Educational Union was established some eighteen months ago, for the delivery of week-day evening lectures, pictorially illustrated, with a view mainly to the benefit of that large class of working men who, partly from a want of proper accommodation in our places of worship, and partly from a love of mere amusement, have abandoned even the outward profession of religion. It was thought that such lectures, in the hands of judicious persons, would be found largely available for the purposes of religious instruction, to those who could be brought within the reach of such instruction in no other way. The experiment has now to some extent been tried, and so far as actual experience has yet gone, the success attending the effort has been most encouraging. In providing materials for such lectures, the success and usefulness of the Union are already well known in many parts of England. Its chief deficiency has hitherto been that it has had few opportunities of becoming known or heard in the metropolis itself. That deficiency is now in a fair way to be supplied. The large room in King William-street, West Strand, known of late as the Oratory of Sir Philip Neri, has been vacated; the place has been taken by a committee of gentlemen, who have at heart the best interests of the working-classes of this city, with the intention of making a more decisive experiment with these Pictorial Lectures, under the sanction of the Working Men's Educational Union. The building having been renovated and adapted to the object, was opened on Friday evening in the presence of some five hundred ladies and gentlemen, to whom invitations had been sent. At seven o'clock, the company arrived, and occupied one hour in viewing the several departments of the place. The large hall, or lecture-room, has been beautifully and most commodiously fitted up, and is capable of accommodating from five to six hundred persons. There are also the necessary offices, and beneath two spacious rooms, well suited to the purpose of a library and reading-room, which it is proposed to establish in connexion with the lectures. Thus the Committee hope there will be established in the very centre of the Metropolis, an Institution in which great numbers of the working classes may be entertained, interested, instructed, and gradually brought to listen to those Divine truths of which they are at present for the most part lamentably ignorant. It is believed that the Institution, when once set to work, will prove

self-supporting. But to repair, refit, and furnish the premises with all the necessary materials for a continued series of lectures, a sum of £1,000 has been required; and to supply the necessary outfit and library for the reading-rooms, on the basement story, a further sum of £400 must be had. Some £700 it is said, has been contributed; and the Committee fully believe that the object which they are labouring to accomplish, needs only to be made known in order to secure the other £700, which is necessary to the carrying out of the experiment. The Hon. A. Kinnaird has kindly undertaken to receive contributions to this object.

At eight o'clock the company assembled in the Lecture-hall, and the proceedings commenced.

Among the gentlemen present were W. Cowper, Esq., M.P.; Hon. A. Kinnaird, M.P.; Sir J. D. Paul, Bart.; Admiral V. Harcourt, Hon. H. Noel, Rev. C. Hume, Hon. Capt. F. Maude, Rev. E. Auriol, Rev. J. Jenkinson, Robert Baxter, Esq.; H. Gurney, Esq.; Rev. Peter A. Latrobe; Samuel Morley, Esq.; J. Macgregor, Esq.; R. Hanbury, jun., Esq.; Thomas Graham, Esq.; John D. Powels, Esq.; Richard Eaton, Esq.; R. B. Seeley, Esq.; J. O. Handson, jun.; Douglas Alport, G. C. Lewis, Timothy Tyrell, Esqs.

The Earl of Shaftesbury had been announced to preside, and His Lordship was present during the early part of the evening; but, having been compelled to retire.

Sir John Dean Paul, Bart, took the chair, and called upon Mr. B. Scott who delivered a very interesting and impressive opening Lecture, upon "Tombs of Egypt," illustrated by beautiful dioramic pictures, the exhibition of which were much applauded by the company. At its conclusion, the Hon. A. Kinnaird, M.P., moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Scott, for the instructive, edifying and highly interesting lecture to which they had listened. (Cheers.) The friends present, if they had been gratified, as he felt sure they must have been, by the lecture, could not show their interest and their gratitude in a better way than by making known the fact, that similar lectures would be delivered every day at three o'clock, to the middle and upper classes, and in the evening to the working classes, whose benefit was especially sought to be promoted. Those who had any knowledge of the working population of this country must be aware that innocent and instructive enjoyment is largely denied to them, and it was, therefore, all the more important that such an effort as this should be encouraged and well sustained. (Hear, hear.) The Resolution having been carried by acclamation. Mr. Scott returned thanks. The Chairman observed, in conclusion, that such an Institution as this could not be supported without great liberality on the part of Christian philanthropists, and trusted that all present, who had it in their power, would give in their contributions. He would himself set the example, and give a donation of ten guineas. (Cheers.) Other contributions were announced, and the proceedings then terminated.

Political Facts and Gossip.

Lord Ponsonby, who was ambassador at Constantinople from November, 1832, to October 1841, and subsequently Ambassador at Vienna, intends moving, in the House of Lords, a series of eight resolutions condemning the conduct of the Czar, urging that all means be employed to prevent the renewal of the treaties rendered void by the existence of war, that in any future ones it be provided that the Sublime Porte be put in possession of the territory between the River Pruth and the River Dneister, to the south of a line to be drawn from —, on the Pruth to —, on the Dneister; and, lastly, that the British ministers support the Sublime Porte in the due fulfilment of any engagement the Sultan may have entered into with the independent Caucasian chiefs.

An Anti-Centralization Union has been formed in London, and held its first meeting on Friday. The objects for this new association which are the resistance of the re-enactment of all "obnoxious and unconstitutional powers affecting local self-government," was held at the Adelphi Hotel, Strand, Mr. Geein in the chair. The chairman having explained the objects of the meeting, Mr. Toulmin Smith addressed them at great length, against centralising tendencies in legislation, and having read letters from Sir J. Duke, the Mayor of Worcester, and from Gloucester, Poplar, and other places, concluded by moving a resolution to the effect that it should be their duty to give all the assistance in their power to individual localities seeking to prevent centralised encroachments, and to oppose the passing of the renewal of all measures, having a centralising tendency, in parliament, and also to promote the development of local self-government. The resolution was seconded by Mr. D'Ifanger, of Marylebone, who stated that that borough paid annually for police, sewers, street improvements and county rate a total sum in round numbers of £155,000, and over which the ratepayers had no control. Mr. W. Evelyn, M.P.; Mr. Billett, of St. Pancras; Mr. Eit, of Islington; Mr. Day, of Southwark; and other gentlemen, having addressed the meeting, the report was adopted unanimously, after which subscriptions were received, and the meeting separated.

Mr. James Kershaw and Mr. J. B. Smith, representatives for Stockport, met their constituents on Thursday. Mr. Kershaw, in speaking of the Eastern question, seemed materially to differ from Mr. Cobden and others of the Manchester school. If war was necessary for the honour and interest of the country, we must submit to the imperious necessity. Mr. Smith, on the other hand, supported the views of Mr. Cobden, and advocated non-interference with the affairs of Turkey and Russia.

Death has deprived Brecon of its Member, Mr. Charles Rodney Morgan. The Brecon candidate is

Mr. Lloyd Vaughan Watkins, Lord-Lieutenant of the county. A vacancy in the representation of Devon has been created by the death of Sir Ralph Lopes.

Mr. Richard Prime, Tory Member for West Sussex, resigns his seat in consequence of increasing years. Mr. Henry Wyndham, son of Colonel Wyndham, is mentioned as a candidate for the vacancy.

Court and Personal News.

Queen Victoria entertained a numerous and illustrious circle of guests last week at Windsor Castle; including the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Earl and Countess of Clarendon, Lord and Lady Hardinge, the Duke and Duchess of Argyll, the Earl and Countess of Bessborough, the Duke of Cambridge, the Marquis and Marchioness of Exeter, the Earl of Malmesbury, Lord and Lady Palmerston, Lord Drumlanrig, the Speaker of the House of Commons and Mrs. Lefevre. On Thursday there were more theatrical performances, this time of a comic cast—*Tender Precautions*, and the *Bengal Tiger*.—The Queen and the Royal Family have taken their usual walking and riding exercise; and Prince Albert has been out shooting.—Her Majesty sat, on Thursday, to Mr. J. E. Jones, for a bust about to be executed at her commands for Mr. Wm. Dargan.—Prince Albert came to London on Friday, and presided over a meeting of the Governors of the Wellington College.—Sir James Graham and Lord Aberdeen have also been on a visit to the Queen.

Earl Granville, Lord President of the Privy Council, gave a grand dinner to the Cabinet Ministers and the great Officers of State of the Queen's Household, on Saturday, at his residence in Bruton-street. At the meeting, the roll of High Sheriffs for the counties of England and Wales for the present year was settled, preparatory to its being submitted to the Queen in Council.

On Monday the Queen came to London, and a Court and Privy Council was held at Buckingham Palace, at 3 o'clock. At the Council, the Queen's speech on opening the Session of Parliament was arranged and agreed upon. Her Majesty picked the List of Sheriffs for the present year for the counties of England and Wales. At the Court, Namik Pacha was presented to the Queen, who also gave audiences to the Earl of Aberdeen, the Earl of Clarendon, Earl Granville, and Lord John Russell.

Several Parliamentary banquets were given on Monday. The Earl of Aberdeen, as First Lord of the Treasury, gave a full-dress banquet to the mover, the Earl of Carnarvon, and the Earl Ducie, the seconder of the royal address, and a large party of peers, at Argyll House. Lord John Russell gave a full-dress Parliamentary dinner party at the Foreign-office. The invitations included the Speaker, Viscount Castlereagh, the mover of the Address, and Mr. Thomson Hankey, the seconder. The Earl of Derby, as leader of the Opposition in the House of Lords, gave a banquet also, at the family residence in St. James's-square, to a distinguished circle of his political friends in the Upper House. The Right Hon. B. Disraeli, M.P., the leader of the anti-ministerial party in the House of Commons, gave a grand dinner at his residence in Upper Grosvenor-street, when the following noblemen and gentlemen were the guests of the right hon. gentleman:—The Marquis of Chandos, the Earl of March, Lord Stanley, Lord Naas, Lord Lovaine, Lord John Manners, the Right Hon. Sir J. S. Packington, the Right Hon. S. W. Walpole, Sir John Yarde Buller, Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton, Sir Fredk. Thesiger, Sir Fitzroy Kelly, Mr. G. Hamilton, Mr. Miles, &c.

The Lord Chancellor has appointed Sir John Eardley Wilmot, Bart., and Mr. Edward Cooke, Judges of the Bristol and York County Courts respectively, in the place of Mr. Arthur Palmer and Mr. E. H. Elsley, who have resigned, on the ground of ill-health.

Marshal Beresford has bequeathed his estates in Carlow county, with £15,000 to build a house, to the second son of one of his old companions in arms—the late General Sir Denis Pack. Captain Denis William Pack, Lord Beresford's godson, is to assume the arms and name of Beresford.

Mr. Daniel Whittle Harvey has declined to accept the testimonial offered by the police, because it might be his duty to admonish with severity, or instantly to dismiss, some of the constables who contributed.

A deputation of gentlemen from the Incorporated Law Society had an interview with the Lord Chancellor on Wednesday, to draw his attention to the proposed establishment of public companies to administer private trusts. Two companies for this purpose—the South Sea Company, and the Executor and Trustee Society—have already deposited their bills in the Private Bill Office of the House of Commons.

Four thousand civil servants of the Crown have memorialised the Chancellor of the Exchequer to award to them a scale of superannuation similar to the one at present given to those civil servants who entered prior to 1829—but graduated on shorter intervals and smaller fractional allowances, and with permission to retire after thirty years' service if sixty years of age. Also to grant such a mitigation of the percentage deductions on salaries as the Government may see fit, either by directly remitting a portion, or by returning an equivalent to the representatives of those who have contributed for ten years, and who may die before superannuation, on the principle recommended by Mr. Hume in 1824.

The *Morning Chronicle* reports that the command of the intended North Sea fleet, which will be a very powerful one, will be offered to Earl Dundonald, who will have under him Vice-Admiral Sir Charles Napier and Rear-Admiral Fanshawe Martin.

Mr. Chichester Fortescue is appointed a junior Lord of the Treasury, vacant by the resignation of Mr. John Sadler. This will necessitate a new election for the county of Louth, and, as far as present appearances

indicate, there is no reason to suppose that any opposition to the re-election of Mr. Fortescue could be successful.

The *Daily News* reports, that the Report of the Commission of Inquiry into the abuses in the Borough Gaol of Birmingham is ready, and very decided in its tone. The magistracy are said to be reprimanded as a body; Messrs. Luccock and Lucy singled out for a more prominent and emphatic rebuke; and the Governor and Surgeon of the Gaol where the cruelties occurred are to be prosecuted.

Father Gavazzi has arrived in England.

It is stated that Mr. Carlyle is unable to visit America during the present season.

Miscellaneous.

A conference was held at the residence of Chevalier Bunsen, on Friday, to consider whether a uniform system of expressing foreign alphabets by Roman characters could be devised and agreed upon. The gentlemen who met were Sir John Herschel, Sir Charles Trevelyan, Professor Owen; Revs. H. Venn, F. Trevelyan, Chapman, William Arthur; Messrs. Edwin Norris, R. Cull, E. Underhill, Captain Graham, and Dr. Max Muller. These represented most of the Missionary, the Asiatic and Ethnological societies. The Royal Academy of Berlin was represented by Dr. Pertz, the editor of the *Monumenta Historica Germanica*. There seemed to be an unanimous feeling that it would be useless and impossible to attempt to find for each possible variety of sound a different graphic sign; but that a sufficient number of typical signs being formed, each nation, or province, would attach to them their own shade of sound, while to other people they would represent the sound in their own language nearest this.—The conference was adjourned to a future day.

The village of Yeadon, in Yorkshire, has been again the scene of considerable excitement, arising out of the decision of Vice-Chancellor Wood, in what is known as the "Yeadon Chapel Case." Some monetary differences between the Conference party and the Reformers having been amicably settled, the bellman was sent round to inform the inhabitants that the school would be opened on Sunday, the 22nd instant, and conducted upon pure Conference principles, and that any parents wishful to send their children might do so. Six little children came on that day to receive instruction. In the meantime, a far different scene was enacting outside. The children, numbering from 300 to 400, who had been turned out to make room for these six precious little ones, had assembled, and joined by the other two schools, formed into procession, proceeded to the green opposite the Robin Hood Inn. At this time there would not be less than 1,200 teachers and scholars, besides several hundred spectators. After singing part of a hymn, Mr. George Abbott delivered a very suitable and sensible address, describing their position, and concluded by appealing to all present to use their best efforts to promote and keep up the interest of the Sunday-schools. The teachers and scholars then proceeded to the old and new schools to make the best accommodation they could for the scholars who had been turned out.

The Rev. R. W. Vanderkiste, author of "A Six Years' Mission among the Dens of London," is on the point of sailing for Sidney. In a letter to the *Times* he says:—"London, according to the *Post-office Directory*, contained in 1848, 2,500 bakers, 990 buttermen and cheesemongers, 1,700 butchers, 3,000 grocers and tea-dealers, 900 established dairy-keepers, 400 fishmongers, 1,300 greengrocers and fruiterers; total, 10,700, and 11,000 publichouses. We may," he says, "build churches and chapels, and multiply schools, but, sir, until the drunken habits of the lower orders are changed, we shall never act upon them as we would wish. While the pothouse is their church, gin their sacrament, and the taproom their schoolroom for evening classes, how can we adequately act upon them for the conversion of their souls?"

The "breach-loading cannon" has been tried in Birmingham. The proprietor has undertaken with the Commander-in-Chief to load and fire this cannon, with two men, as many times, and as effectively each shot, in twelve hours, as any twelve picked men in the British service will load and fire any three guns of the same calibre.

An important decision was given by Vice-Chancellor Stuart, on Wednesday, regarding the liability of shareholders in joint-stock companies completely registered. Master Tinney had, on the 20th June, 1853, made an order that Mr. Greenwood should pay a call of £1 per share on twenty-five shares held by him in the Sea Fire and Life Assurance Company. A motion was made to discharge the order. The Company was dissolved in 1850, and ordered to be brought under the provisions of the Winding-up Acts of 1848-49. Mr. Greenwood was sued at the instance of the official manager for payment of a fresh call, although he had previously paid the amount of his shares in full, and there were many shareholders who had paid only part; while at the same time the Company's deed provided, that beyond the actual amount of their subscription no shareholders should be liable for any further call. The decision of the Vice-Chancellor was, that the call could not be made, and that, unless upon some special grounds, such as did not appear to exist in the present case, no further liability could be enforced. In stating this conclusion, he dwelt also upon the Joint Stock Companies Act in a manner which went far to indicate that its bearings afford more of the advantages of the system of limited partnership than has hitherto been supposed. Order discharged.

Policeman Dwyer, who suffered so much from the brutality of the sweep Cannon, has been granted a pension of £30 by the Commissioners of Police.

The inquiry into the case of Cumming, who mur-

dered his wife at Edinburgh, did not warrant Lord Palmerston to advise a commutation of the sentence, and the culprit was hanged on Wednesday. The circumstances of the execution were unusual. Many thousands of spectators assembled, and Cumming addressed them. "I am innocent of murder," he said, "but am an awful sinner. I trust for mercy in Jesus Christ, who alone can forgive me and you. My enemies have a free pardon from me. For forty years I have ploughed the salt seas, and now you see what I have been brought to by foolishness." No sooner was his address finished than loud cries of "Shame, shame!" and distinct murmurs were heard from all parts of the dense mass. After prayer by the Rev. Mr. Ferguson, the executioner proceeded to discharge his task; which led to a renewal of the former marks of disapprobation. Shouts of "Cut the rope!" were heard. On the rope being adjusted round his neck, the cap was pulled over his face, but Cumming removed it with his hand. Having engaged in mental supplication, he threw down the signal that he was ready, and the bolt was drawn.

The party in favour of incorporating Brighton have obtained a triumph, by returning seven Town Commissioners; all the candidates on the other side having been rejected, though by a narrow majority, obtained only in the last few hours of the final polling-day.

Respecting the deputation to the Emperor Nicholas noticed in our last number the *Stroud Free Press* says:—"The embassy proceeds from the Friends' Meeting for Sufferings, a committee who undertake the management of all business, in the intervals of the yearly meeting, relating to the civil rights and privileges of the Friends. Joseph Sturge, the principal in the well known firm of J. & C. Sturge, Henry Pease, of Darlington, brother of Joseph Pease, formerly M.P. for Durham, and Robert Charlton, of Bristol, well known and esteemed for his active co-operation in all works of social and moral improvement, are the three gentlemen constituting the deputation. They crossed the channel to France last Friday morning, and proceed, as fast as steam can carry them, to Vienna; thence they will proceed to Petersburg by the most available means (sledges included) within their power. They have been supplied with all the necessary passports and credentials, and have reason to expect only such a reception as the most commendable object of their journey deserves. When the Emperor was in England some few years ago, he was occasionally in the company of some of the leading members of the Society of Friends, and more especially in that of Joseph Gurney, with whom and his sister, Mrs. Fry, he visited some of our public institutions. Joseph Gurney would have joined the deputation, but being now upwards of seventy years of age, it was feared that the fatigue of the journey, to say nothing of the rigour of a Russian temperature at this season, would be too much for him. He is represented, therefore, by an earnest epistle to the Czar."

At a meeting for improving postal communication with Australia, held at the London Tavern on Thursday, Alderman Sir James Duke, Bart., M.P., in the chair, a long discussion took place on the neglect of the Government to secure a speedy postal conveyance with Australia. It was stated, that at least a semi-monthly postal service ought to be secured to the colonists and their friends at home. It was proved that the recommendations of the Committee of the House of Commons had been disregarded, that great injuries had arisen from want of postal communication, that the despatching of mails by sailing ships, via the Cape, was a failure, and finally, that there were no grounds for procrastination of a cheap, steady, and efficient steam semi-monthly postal conveyance, which might do the distance in sixty-three days, if an open system of competition were adopted by the Government, as in the case of the Indian mail service. These views were ably advocated by Mr. Moffat, M.P., Mr. Donaldson, Mr. M'Gregor, M.P., and others, and a petition was prepared for signature, embodying the views of the Committee existing for effecting a cheap postage by steam between England and the Australian colonies.

At a thin meeting of "Protestants," held last week in the Manchester Corn Exchange,—the Reverend Hugh Stowell in the Chair,—resolutions were adopted, censuring, as unfair, impolitic, and fitted to "provoke Almighty God," the plan announced by Lord Palmerston of appointing and paying Roman Catholic priests in our convict gaols.

The City Commissioners last week examined a great many officers of the corporation, chiefly those occupying inferior posts; and the evidence they have given consists mainly of detailed accounts of their duties and the management of their offices, of little public interest. Mr. Daniel Whittle Harvey gave statistics of the City Police. The force consists of 679 men, none of whom are under five feet eight inches in height; last year they cost £44,341, or £74 17s. 1½d. per man. Mr. Harvey compared the cost of the City with that of the Metropolitan Police; giving the number of persons arrested, and the number committed within and without the City, in order to show the efficiency of the City force. He does not think that the distinction between the two police jurisdictions causes any inconvenience. Mr. Merewether, the Town Clerk, handed in a list of the incomes and emoluments of all the officers of the corporation, prepared by themselves.

A very useful abstract of the laws relating to the hiring of hackney carriages, has just been published. The publication is issued under the authority of the Commissioners of Police, and it includes an exact list of fares to and from various leading points of the metropolis. A summary is given of the laws which regulate the contract between the hirer and the driver, so that the work provides the means of avoiding many of the difficulties which constantly arise in reference to

the vexed question of cab fares. Among the various points noticed, it may be well to mention that the law provides that a reasonable quantity of luggage is to be taken without additional charge; but where there are more than two persons inside with more luggage than can be carried inside the carriage, 2s. is to be paid for each package carried outside. One important fact with respect to the distances included in the table is, that they have been measured by the shortest routes, and that the tables form conclusive evidence of all the distances to which they relate.

Experiments have been tried on the London and North-Western Railway with Professor Glukmann's invention for effecting a communication between the guard and driver of a train. There is a constantly-charged battery at each end of the train; also a large bell; a wire communicates between the two batteries. The guard can ring the driver's bell, and vice versa. If a part of the train broke away, the bells would commence ringing, and continue to ring. The trial last week was a rough one, but it appeared to be successful.

Coals and the coal trade are just now an interesting topic to the citizen of London. Twenty-years ago (says the *Sunderland News*) London was satisfied with a supply of two million tons of coals, but last year it was half-starved with double that amount. Its impatient cry is, therefore, for more coals, and with the view of increasing the importations, it is proposed to open up the coasting trade to foreign vessels. The market is extending, and even at present ships have frequently to lie for days before their turn comes to get a cargo. It is obvious, therefore, that until our various statesmen have a much greater quantity of coals at their disposal the demand will continue to exceed the supply. The retail price of coals in the metropolis was a few days ago 2s. 9d. per cwt. for second qualities, and 3s. for the best, being nearly 150 per cent. higher than it was this time last year. An immense fleet of colliers, about a thousand in number, have, however, left the north-east ports for the Thames during the last ten days, the cargoes of which, and the return of mild weather, will tend to lower the price. Coal freights continue high.

A public meeting was held in Exeter Hall, on Thursday, to support the proposed Cosmos Institute. Mr. Hyde Clarke explained the objects of the institution to be the acquisition of the "Great Globe," Leicester-square, and the collection of maps in the possession of Mr. Wyld; and, secondly, the establishment of a library and reading-room for colonial newspapers and information. Further, it was proposed to establish an ethnological museum, and, in short, generally to aid the diffusion of knowledge on colonial and geographical subjects. The remainder of the address referred to the details by means of which the design was to be carried out. Mr. Digby Seymour, M.P., and Captain Inglefield supported the project. Lord Stanley, formerly chairman of the society, has withdrawn from it.

There were twenty-five deep sewers substituted last year for shallow ones in the city; 280 houses were drained, making a total of 11,794, and 4,206 still undrained. The engineer and surveyor of the City Sewers Commission recommends that the churchyards now closed should be paved, and where practicable turfed and planted with trees, to prevent foul exhalations from causing disease.

Mr. Dargan, it is now officially announced, has lost £20,000 by the Irish Exhibition of 1853.

The "great tract case" has been again before the Dublin Court of Queen's Bench, on an application to quash the order of Mr. O'Callaghan, the magistrate, against Smith, the distributor of religious handbills. The counsel for the magistrate admitted that the informations, as returned, could not on technical grounds support the order, which was accordingly quashed. Smith was therefore discharged from his recognizances.

The intelligence from Ireland is more unfavourable than usual. The *Cork Constitution* states that, notwithstanding the care exercised by the relieving officers of the several unions in that quarter, the number of paupers in the workhouses is rapidly increasing. The Clonmel papers make a similar complaint.

A memorial to Lord Aberdeen from the capitalists, merchants, shipowners, and others of London, on the necessity for the immediate adoption of a system of agricultural statistics, now lies for signature in the city, and has been very influentially signed.

A deputation of graziers waited on the Lord Mayor on Friday, and presented a memorial, praying that, in the new market, the "Smithfield market-day" may be altered to Tuesday instead of Monday; so that Sunday preparations and travelling may be avoided. The Lord Mayor promised that the memorial should be laid before the next Court of Common Council, with an earnest recommendation on his part that its prayer be taken into consideration at a very early period.

By certain telegraph arrangements now in progress, vessels sighting Cape Clear will be telegraphed to London within an hour.

Great efforts are being made in many of the metropolitan parishes for the relief of the distressed poor, in addition to the workhouse relief.

Dr. Routh, the President of Magdalen College, Oxford, who is in his ninety-ninth year, has just completed a work consisting of extracts from the Fathers, with an original introduction.

An American paper gives the following good advice:—Always have a book within your reach, which you may catch up at your odd minutes. Resolve to edge in a little reading every day, if it is but a single sentence. If you can give fifteen minutes a-day, it will be felt at the end of the year. Thoughts take up no room. When they are right, they afford a portable pleasure, which one may travel or labour with, without any trouble or encumbrance.

Literature.

A Brage-Beaker with the Swedes; or, Notes from the North, in 1852. By W. BLANCHARD JERROLD. Illustrated from sketches by the Author. London: Nathaniel Cooke, Milford-lane.

MR. BLANCHARD JERROLD visited Sweden in very good company, and especially was assisted by the "attentive friendship" of Count De Rosen; to whom he acknowledges himself indebted for pleasure and instruction, and dedicates to him this book on his native country,—but, rather oddly, does so in a biographical sketch of the Count's labours to forward the use of the screw-propeller in steam-ships of war, and to introduce railways into Sweden! These "rough notes," as Mr. Jerrold calls them, are written with great vivacity and spirit; and describe the first impressions made by Swedish scenery, towns, and people. The adventure of the book is of the small sort, but the incidents are uncommonly graphically told. In its pictures of the country, and of such society and manners as a rapid tourist is able to see and observe, the work is excellent beyond most books of travel. In fact, Mr. Jerrold shows that, as a traveller, he knows perfectly well *what* to write, and *how* to write it. There are some things, matters of opinion and bits of feeling, dropped by the way, to which one might take exception reasonably enough; but we are in the humour just now to let them pass, for the sake of the amusement and information Mr. Jerrold affords us.

Passing over the journey, though described with plenty of glee and humour, we make an extract from the author's

FIRST IMPRESSIONS OF SWEDEN.

"We now went briskly forward for two or three hours by daylight, and caught glimpses of Swedish landscape. Between Holmstadt and Fulkenberg the country presents many of the general characteristics of Swedish scenery. The abundant streams of water that dance about Sweden, give everywhere a life and cheerfulness to its landscape; the large masses of granite that peep continually out of the earth, in the midst of cultivated fields, in peasants' cottage-gardens, give it a peculiar aspect, not without its beauty. Our way this day lay across foaming rivers, rushing wildly over granite rocks, and through deep and tangled fissures, into the catagat; past streams threading their way down sloping rocks by the roadside; past straggling wooden houses, all painted red (to preserve the wood); past well-cultivated lands, with huge masses of stone lying undisturbed in the centre of them, because the farmers believe these lumps of rock, cast into their fields, shelter their crops from harm—a lingering bit of the old Norse religion. Then our way lay through hundreds of acres of barren moorland (all dreary enough), and then over a mass of granite sprinkled with coarse vegetation, with mosses of various hues, and coarse grass. Almost within an English mile of our progress, we passed foaming streams turning busy mills, and saw Swedish millers pause to enjoy a leisurely stare at us. But let me say at once the Swedes are all polite; in manners truly and thoroughly the French of the north. No peasant passes a carriage without raising his hat; no gentleman fails courteously to return the salute. [Next day] we found ourselves in a very dreary part of the country. All around was moorland and rock! Huge masses of granite rose to an immense height; brown, stunted vegetation filled up every chink in them. Dreary, and silent, and flat, the prospect was, without any signs of animal life. We heard no birds, could see none; and the wind howled over all, and the sky threatened. Thor's frown was upon the scene undoubtedly.

We presently approached the great chains of granite hills, which warned us that we were near Gottenburg. We crawled through this grand, this terrible region, past peasants dressed in indescribably intricate costumes, but always leather aprons; past Swedish peasant-women, who looked like English farm-girls in French peasant dresses; past extraordinary bundles of clothes in extraordinary conveyances, all merrily travelling along this awfully muddy road. But presently the sublime aspect of this vast region of rocks fastened its impressive thoughts upon me. I had already seen rocky country, but here all was rock. Stonehenge a thousand times magnified; ruins of heathen temples all heaped up together! The masonry work of the world shot pell-mell upon a vast plain of stone, seemed to me hardly to approach, as an image, the grandeur of the colossal granite masses that lay about here, surrounded by their parental granite hills, glistening with silver-varied rivulets, or worn by foaming roaring torrents. The sun was setting, and the hills brightened with a thousand colours. Every conceivable tint was here in the foreground, on the moss or on the stone, or reflected in the dancing waters. And now we passed the huge burnished face of a rock, with its thousand tints upon it—a rock that I called Turner's palette. Here, exactly here, I thought, on the arrival of certain giant maids from Jotenheim, Odin certainly hurled his terrible spear amidst the people, which struck the fire of the first war;—for this majestic granite is of an age the remoteness of which we cannot estimate, compared with which Odin's time is the modern historical era. And the vault above me, let it be nothing but Yurio's skull, as of old,—the sea, his blood; the earth, his body! On all this great and suggestive expanse, this proper scene of the Scaldic songs, this natural home of the great deities of grand northern nature, Thor's eyebrows gather fiercely, Balder's sunlight fades fast, and leaves us to be jolted terribly for a few hours longer before we reach the suburbs of Gottenburg."

We may safely leave this passage to speak for Mr. Jerrold's descriptive powers, and his ability to invest a natural scene with the hues of the mind; in this case supplied from the old mythology to which the scenery gave its own stern magnificence, and with which it is for ever associated.

In describing Gottenburg—the commercial capital of the north, Mr. Jerrold has occasion to point out the ludicrous inapplicability and errors of Mr. Laing's account of that place, as it appears now, although perhaps true in 1834 when he visited the country. But we cannot tarry with Mr. Jerrold among the worthy citizens of Gottenburg.

On the subject of the peasantry and peasant-life of Sweden, a good deal of misrepresentation is said to have proceeded from the source already referred to—"the gentleman, who travelled helter-skelter through the country in a sulky mood, some twenty years ago, and conversed with nobody and saw nobody!" At all events, if Mr. Jerrold made faithful use of the aids to observation which the companionship of several Swedish friends offered him, we may feel some confidence in the accuracy of the following picture of

PEASANT-LIFE IN SWEDEN.

"The truth on the subject of Swedish peasant-life, so far as I could ascertain it from intelligent Swedes with whom I came in contact, I shall tell without theorising much. In the first place, then, I ascertained from Herr M—— that the Swedish peasantry were cursed generally with a love of finkel; yet, strange to say, throughout a journey of about twelve hundred miles through the country, I never once encountered a man thoroughly drunk; that is, describing a series of very acute angles on his way, or exhibiting that boisterous merriment which, with some men, is the result of undue familiarity with the bottle—yet, as I say, the Swedish peasants took considerable quantities of the popular spirit. The explanation, I believe, lies in the peculiarity of the climate—in the prevailing cold. Take a lady up one of the Scotch mountains, and she will tiddle whiskey with impunity, return with her to the valley, and she will not be able to taste the national liquor. If I might obtrude my own experience in Sweden, I should say that I consumed more spirit there in the course of one day, than I could, with comfort to my friends, consume here in a week. It was possible to drink pure spirits before breakfast with impunity as we travelled on our road to Orebro. I do not record this fact with the view of turning the tide of English emigration to the Scandinavian peninsula, nor for the purpose of realising a licensed victualler's Utopia. Men tell you everywhere in Sweden that finkel is the curse of the country from one end of it to the other; that it stupefies the national energies; that it wastes and dulls the national brain. It is distilled in every part of the peninsula with the utmost freedom; it is wonderfully cheap, and, as a consequence, very pure. Here it might be asked of certain retailers of English spirits, whether the comparative impunity enjoyed by the spirit-consumer of Sweden should not in some degree be attributed to the purity of his beverage, and whether the terribly disguised noses which an observer may notice in any street in London—varying from the port-wine nose of an alderman to the gin-nose of the cabman—whether these should not be laid at the door (and they would be serious deposits at the door of the strongest man) of certain purveyors of spirits, who burn their neighbour's stomachs with capsaicum and verdigris, and other terrible matters? The Swedes indulge in a pure distillation called finkel; the English indulge in an impure mixture, chiefly poisonous. I will not say that the pure finkel is no enemy to the Scandinavian nose; for I noticed here and there remarkably convincing proofs to the contrary. The driver who conducted us from Helsingborg to Gottenburg had a nose that was ripening gradually from a raspberry to a mulberry tint; and many of the noses that arranged themselves about our carriage-windows at the posting-stations, suggested a prevailing partiality for alcohol. Our discussion on the subject lasted for hours, and was illustrated by humorous as well as tragic instances, with which I shall not trouble the reader. These related to jocular, as well as serious systematic drinkers—to men who drink to enliven themselves, and men who tumbled because they loved spirit. We said some poetic things about the whole soul of man revealing itself after a second tumbler; we enlarged upon the fine social qualities developed by the magic power of the grape; we touched upon the career of noted drunkards; and, generally, did not evince any irresistible desire to take the pledge. However, we did not personally illustrate our position, but contented ourselves with seeking a sober couch at an early hour."

Subsequently, Mr. Jerrold tells us some more favourable things about the peasants, and concludes thus:—

"I find that in Sweden, as in England, great paths are open to the peasantry; but I find here, that which I cannot clearly see in England—an enlightened anxiety on the part of the nobles to honour all who rise. . . . The Swedish peasantry, in short, have every legitimate avenue open to them. They are possessors and cultivators of their native soil; they are legislators in their own distinct chamber; they may rise to be chief spiritual advisers of the State."

With the chapter on Swedish Commerce we will not meddle; nor with the long appendix, containing import and export tables. Both have their value, and will be found useful; but, in a book so light and dashing as this, they almost look like mere "filling," and certainly contain only "cram" knowledge.

Mr. Jerrold has himself furnished the numerous views with which his work is illustrated, together with some humorous wayside sketches of persons and incidents that tickled his humour. It is a pleasant enough book and will well repay perusal.

Pelham; or, The Adventures of a Gentleman. By SIR EDWARD BULWER LYTTON, Bart., M.P. With a Notice of the Author and his Works. London: Routledge & Co., Farringdon-street.

It will have been gathered by our readers from the literary gossip of our columns some weeks ago, that Messrs. Routledge and Co. have given a very large sum for the copyright of Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton's novels; and are now about to re-issue them in the "Railway Library," in volumes at from one to two shillings each. The first of these is before us; and by this time has reached the hands of many to whom these lines now come. But there are also many persons to whom the novelist's name alone is known; and who may like to know something of the man and his life. For their sakes, and to gratify their curiosity, rather than make an attempt to sketch the life and estimate the genius of Bulwer Lytton, we perform the easier task of making a few extracts from the Introductory Notice, with which this volume is prefaced.

It is evident that this notice is compiled from

authentic materials, and must be considered as having the author's sanction. Here is an account of his early life.

Edward Bulwer Lytton is the third and youngest son of the late William Bulwer, of Heydon Hall and Wood Dalling, Norfolk, brigadier-general, one of the four commanding officers to whom the internal defence of England, at the time of the anticipated invasion by Napoleon, was entrusted, and of Elizabeth, sole heiress and representative of the Lyttons of Knebworth, Herts. His two brothers are both living; the eldest (William) inherited the paternal estates in Norfolk, and enjoys in private life the reputation of an excellent landlord, and an accomplished gentleman. The second, who derived from his grandmother a considerable fortune, is the distinguished diplomatist Sir Henry Bulwer, successively Minister Plenipotentiary in Spain, the United States, and the Court of Tuscany, Privy Councillor, and Knight Grand Cross of the Order of the Bath.

The name of Bulwer attests the Scandinavian origin of the family by which it is borne. No patronymic can more unequivocally express descent from those daring races of the Baltic, which, whether under the title of Dane or Norman, exercised so large an influence over the early history and progressive civilisation of Great Britain. In its ancient orthography, Bulwer, or Bulver, it is one of the war-titles of Odin; it is the name also borne by one of the most famous of the Scandinavian Scalds, or warrior-bards; and the place at which the first of the name landed in England is still called Bulverhithe.

General Bulwer died while Henry was yet an infant. The care of our author's education devolved upon his mother, to whose virtues and acquisitions he has often alluded with grateful paths.

After passing through one or two preparatory schools, Edward was placed with Dr. Hooker, of Rottingdean, near Brighton, whose academy was in great repute at that day. Here, we have heard from one of his school-contemporaries, that though the quickness and vigour of his abilities were universally recognized, he was chiefly remarkable for eagerness and energy in all boyish sports, for determined courage, which would not brook a blow or affront from any boy, however superior to himself in years and size; and for a personal activity and strength which seemed at variance with a frame always slight, and a health always delicate. On leaving Dr. Hooker's, he continued his education under the tuition, first, of the Rev. C. Wallington, at Ealing, and next, more expressly for the purpose of studying the mathematical sciences, under the Rev. H. Thomson, of St. Lawrence, near Ramsgate.

He went to the University at Cambridge at an earlier age than usual; was entered first at Trinity College, but only remained there one term; after which he removed to Trinity Hall. He soon chose his acquaintance amongst the most distinguished of his collegiate contemporaries; but the eagerness with which he entered into the discussions at the famous Union Debating Society, and into all subjects of general literary and philosophical inquiry, seems to have distracted him from the formal routine of University studies, and prevented (with the one exception we shall presently refer to) his trying for academical honours; the loss of an occasion which he has been often heard to regret. He became, however, highly distinguished, more especially for historical information, at the Union Society—of which he was unanimously elected President—and quitted the University, after taking the ordinary degree of B.A., with the general reputation for scholarship, energy, and talent, which already marked him as one of those men of whom, like the Audley Egerton of his own latest fiction, the experienced prophecy, "they will be something some day." In the last year of his residence at the University, he had contested the gold medal for an English poem on *Sculpture*; the prize was decided in his favour after he had left, and he went up to the University to recite his poem in the Senate House. The poem made a considerable sensation at the time, from a boldness of style and variety of illustration, in contrast with the formal monotony of that class of composition.

"The love for action and adventure, which may be traced throughout his whole career, which had led him to spend the summer vacations of the University in pedestrian rambles over great portions of England and Scotland, even joining (if we rightly interpret a passage in one of his works), for a short time, the migrations of a Gipsy tribe,—now induced him to enter the army, as cornet in a cavalry regiment. But we believe that he never actually joined, and his success in literature shortly afterwards decided him to resign his commission, and pursue the 'bubble reputation' at other months than the cannon's."

The writer of this sketch then gives an account of the publication successively of Bulwer Lytton's various fictions, and explains their purpose, in criticisms founded on the works and prefaces of the novelist himself. These papers are very interesting; and while, perhaps, they describe designs, philosophical and artistic, which common readers would not detect in the works themselves,—and while, too, they place the author's genius and success, higher than we might do, they furnish very good lights in which to study his productions.

We have had, ere now, to express strongly adverse opinions as to Sir Bulwer Lytton's selection and treatment of character and incident; we have complained of immoral insinuations, and a morbid taste and feeling, which have not allowed us to place him high in the rank of teachers by fiction. But we would do justice to his many splendid qualities and great art-power, by which he has deservedly achieved an eminence scarcely approached by any living writer of fiction. And, above all, we look on the "Caxtons," and "My Novel," as something like redemptive works, for the sake of which we may properly abate our censure, and heartily join the general praise.

Of this first work, "Pelham," we need not now say more, than that, while not a pleasing or altogether praiseworthy book—a book we would not like to have written—it is too brilliant and powerful a picture of certain phases of society ever to be forgotten or willingly lost. Further than this, we will only give Sir Edward the benefit of a few lines from his biographer; ourselves, however, partly dissenting from them.

"When all allowance for the faults or deficiencies of our

author is largely made, this praise at least must incontestably remain, that no collection of prose fictions, by any single author, contains the same variety of experience, the same amplitude of knowledge and thought, the same combination of opposite extremes, harmonised by an equal mastery of art; here lively and sparkling fancies, there vigorous passion, or practical wisdom; these works abound in illustrations that teach benevolence to the rich, and courage to the poor; they glow with the love of freedom; they bespeak a sympathy with all high aspirations, and all manly struggle; and where, in their more tragic postures, they depict the dread images of guilt and woe, they so clear our judgment by profound analysis, while they move our hearts by terror or compassion, that we learn to detect and stifle in ourselves the evil thought which we see gradually unfolding itself into the guilty deed."

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Scripture Expositions; or, Daily Meditations. Vols. I. II. III. and IV. M. W. Dodd.
The Seven Churches of Asia. M. W. Dodd.
Christian Ordinances and Ecclesiastical Observances. M. W. Dodd.
Christian Experience. Ward and Co.
The Journal of Sacred Literature. Blackader and Co.
Bibliotheca Sacra and American Biblical Repository. Trubner and Co.
Religious Emblems. William Tegg and Co.
Life and Labours of Hodgson Casson. R. Needham.
Baldar. Smith, Elder, and Co.
Biblical Commentary on the Epistle to the Hebrews. T. and T. Clark.
A Compendium of Ecclesiastical History. T. and T. Clark.
Rome, Regal and Republican. A. Hall, Virtue, and Co.
Twelve Letters on Transubstantiation.
Clotel; or, the President's Daughter. Partridge and Oakley.
Faith and Criticism. J. Shepherd.
Discourses and Services on occasion of the Death of the Rev. R. Wardlaw, D.D. A. Fullarton and Co.

Literary Gossip.

In an ancient chest, long standing in a neglected corner of an obscure tower in Lambeth Palace, we (*Athenaeum*) understand that certain historical papers have just been found. No details as to the particular contents of the documents now unearthed, have yet reached us; but we hear it said that they are valuable of their kind. They are supposed to refer chiefly—if not exclusively—to the Cromwell period. We have even heard that some of them bear the signature of the Protector.

Sir David Brewster is about to bring out an entirely new life of Sir Isaac Newton, founded on family papers in possession of the Earl of Portsmouth. "This work," says the prospectus, "will be essentially different from the author's former 'Life of Sir Isaac Newton, in everything that regards his biography or personal history. The account of his discoveries will be more full and accurate, and the part of the work relative to his chemical, alchemical, and theological pursuits will be altogether new."

Another announcement of interest is the forthcoming publication of Calvin's unpublished letters, under the management of Dr. Jules Bonnet, who has devoted some years to this collection. The correspondence includes each phase of his eventful life, from the obscure scholar of Bourges and of Paris—only escaping death by exile—to the triumphant reformer, who, having lived to see his task accomplished, would not fear to die.

Cleanings.

At Ricknal, Durham, a farmer completed his oat-harvest on the 3rd of January, 1854.

The Californian papers, in their announcement of births, add to the sex of the child its weight!

The Great Northern Railway Company are about to establish a circulating library along their line.

Mr. E. T. Smith, the lessee of Drury Lane, is about to build a large theatre at the East end of London.

The "yarn" about the snake having issued from a seaman's mouth in the Haslar Hospital, which has gone the round of the papers, is an entire fabrication.

The mate of the "Dewdrop," of Whitby, recently wrecked at Arbroath, declares that the rats, which had infested the ship by thousands, quitted it before it left Hartlepool on its fatal voyage.

A pair of skates has just been made for the Queen at Sheffield. In lieu of straps across the instep, each skate is provided with a patent-leather boot. These boots are firmly attached by a strip of plated silver to the clogs, which are of satin-wood highly polished.

The brief mode of addressing letters "Post restante" may be conveniently adopted from the French, instead of "To be left at the Post-office till called for." Indeed, "Post rest" would be sufficient in English.

The following characteristic letter has appeared in the *Times*, from Lieut. General W. Napier:—"Sir, pray inform your correspondents 'H.' and 'Senex' that I don't answer angry people without names: they must get christened."

"Raphael" foretells "treachery and conspiracies" against the Queen of Portugal for March next, not foreseeing that the poor lady would be in her grave five months beforehand!

To the ingenuity of one of the compositors in the *Times* office, says *Household Words*, belongs the honour and glory of having achieved the perfect ventilation of the composing-room, when many doctors in the art have failed.

"Uncle," said a young man who thought that his guardian supplied him rather seldom with pocket-money, and felt a little hesitation in beginning to make an assault on his relative's generosity, "is the Queen's head still on the shilling-piece?" "Of course it is, you stupid lad! why do you ask that?" "Because it is now such a length of time since I saw one."

The regalia of Poland are a mournful sight to the few travellers who get access to the Kremlin at Mos-

cow. There are the crowns of Peter the Great, and his wife, containing nearly 4,000 diamonds; and, beside them, the simple Polish crown of polished gold, with a cross in the centre; and at hand is seen the Polish throne of blue velvet, starred over with golden stars.

Most of the members of the British Government are advanced in life. The Earl of Aberdeen is seventy; Lord John Russell, sixty-two; Lord Palmerston, seventy; and the First Lord of the Admiralty, sixty-two. The youngest of all, Earl Granville, is in his fortieth year, and the ages of the others, Newcastle, Sydney Herbert, Gladstone, Clarendon, and Wood, vary between forty-three and fifty-four.

The following is the important conclusion of a telegraphic despatch from Kronstadt, on the Eastern question, which appeared in a morning journal yesterday:—"No one can tell what may happen to-morrow."

"I am no believer," says Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton at Edinburgh last week, "in genius without labour; but I do believe that labour, judiciously and continuously applied, becomes genius in itself. Success in removing obstacles, as in conquering armies, depends on this law of mechanics—the greatest amount of force at your command concentrated on a given point. If your constitutional force be less than another man's, you equal him if you continue it longer and concentrate it more. The old saying of the Spartan parent to the son who complained that his sword was too short, is applicable in everything in life. If your weapon is too short add a step to it."

The *Quarterly Review* just out, cites, as a proof "that both Russia and Austria have always opposed any schemes for real improvement devised by the Porte, the fact that last year, when the Turkish Ministers were about to enter into an agreement with an eminent firm in this country for the construction of a railway through its European provinces, which would have been of the utmost importance to the prosperity of the country, the Austrian Representative announced to them that his Government would view with the greatest displeasure such an undertaking in the hands of Englishmen—the Porte well knew what this threat implied. The opposition of Russia to the construction of roads in the East of Asia Minor is well-known."

The beard and moustache movement is making rapid progress. The men employed on the Great Western Railway have requested the *Daily News* to insert a resolution to which they have come, of war to the razor "as an instrument of torture to the face." A clergyman in a letter to the same journal urges upon his brethren the propriety of their wearing their beards like the early reformers. A letter from Manchester says, "The disciples of the shave-no-more movement seem to be rapidly increasing in our city, for go where we may, on Change, where merchants most do congregate; in our public halls; in church or chapel; in the open street, there do we meet men, bearded like the pard, and as foreign-like as it is well possible for Britishers to be." Lecturers on the subject have already begun to make their appearance. A writer in a country paper estimates, with all the precision of a Chancellor of the Exchequer, that £3,000,000 a year is lost by the use of the razor in time and money! "So much am I pleased with my anti-shaving experience (says the hirsute correspondent of the *North British Daily Mail*) that I would in all sincerity earnestly urge upon all gentlemen occupying anything like an independent position at once to give up shaving; for it assuredly is a foolish, absurd, and painful operation, and one, too, that is decidedly detrimental to both health and manly beauty."

The sale of some standard and popular books in the United States is very large. Of Mr. Macaulay's *Miscellanies*, 5 vols., 60,000 copies have been sold. The following are the estimated sales of other works:—*McQuirk's Commercial Dictionary*, 10,000; *Alex. Smith's Poems*, 10,000; *Bulwer's "My Novel"*, 35,000; *Thier's French Revolution and Consulate*, 32,000; *Lord Bacon's Works*, 4,000; *Thackeray's Works* are said to be quadruple that in England, and Dickens's books sell almost by millions of volumes. Mr. Washington Irving is the most popular American author; the sale of his works has reached 144,000 vols.; of *Uncle Tom*, 450,000 vols. Of the two works of Miss Warner, *Queechy*, and the *Wide, Wide World*, the sale in America has been 104,000 volumes. The following may be also noted:—*Fern Leaves* by Fanny Fern, in six months, 45,000; *Reveries of a Bachelor*, and other books, by Tk. Marvel, 70,000; *Northrup's Twelve Years a Slave*, 20,000; *Headley's Napoleon and his Marshals*, *Washington and his Generals*, and other works, 200,000; *Seward's Life of John Quincy Adams*, 30,000; *Frost's Pictorial History of the World*, 3 vols., 60,000; *Sparks's American Biography*, 25 vols., 100,000; *Encyclopaedia Americana*, 14 vols., 280,000; *Barnes's Notes on the Gospels, Epistles, &c.*, 11 vols., 300,000; *Aiken's Christian Minstrel*, in two years, 40,000; *Alexander on the Psalms*, 3 vols., 10,000; *Leslie's Cookery and Receipt Books*, 96,000; *Wood and Bach's Medical Dispensatory*, 60,000; *Dungliken's Medical Writings*, in all 10 vols., 50,000; *Webster's Works*, 4 vols., 46,800; *Kent's Commentaries*, 4 vols., 8,000. Such a list looks rather odd under the light of the misrepresentation that the Anglo-American enjoys no native-born literature, and relies on English writers for his intellectual nourishment.

BIRTHS.

January 27th, at 28, Belgrave-square, the wife of E. MARJORI BANKS, Jun., Esq., of a daughter.
January 21st, at Glasgow, Mrs. THOMSON, wife of the Rev. Professor THOMSON, of a daughter.
January 24th, at Holkham, the Countess of LEICESTER, of a daughter.
January 26th, at 144, Crown-street, Glasgow, the wife of the Rev. J. WILLIAMS, Baptist Minister, of a son.
January 26th, at Marlborough-house, the wife of A. W. W. BRUCE, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

January 26th, at Upminster, by the Rev. Thomas Joseph, the Rev. WILLIAM JOSEPH, of Great Eversden, Cambridgeshire, to Miss PINCHON, of Upminster, Essex.
 January 24th, at Salem chapel, Mile-end-road, by the Rev. H. L. Adams, Mr. THOMAS JEAL, to Miss JEMIMA THOROGOOD, of Beaumont-square, London.
 January 24th, at Union chapel, Islington, by the Rev. J. A. James, of Birmingham, MARY, the third daughter of the Rev. THOMAS JAMES, to the Rev. R. BRINDLEY, of Bath.
 January 10th, at the Independent chapel, Lewisham-road, Kent, by the Rev. Dr. Hewlett: GREGORY BROWNE, of the Royal Artillery Canteen, Woolwich, to CHARLOTTE ANN, sixth daughter of the late Mr. JOHN LUFF, surgeon, Hackney.
 January 28th, at Islington chapel, by the Rev. J. Blackburn, THOMAS PRITCHARD, Esq., of H. M. Inland Revenue, Penzance, Cornwall, to ELIZABETH, third daughter of WILLIAM BRASS, Esq., of Islington.

DEATHS.

January 25th, at West-lodge, Hammersmith, THOMAS SAUNDERS, Esq., F.S.A., Comptroller of the Chamber, Guildhall, London, in his 68th year.
 January 26th, at his residence, 38, Lowndes-square, Rear-Admiral SOHREY.
 January 26th, ROBERT BEVAN Esq., of Rougham Rookery, and of Bury St. Edmunds, banker, aged 69.
 January 26th, at his seat Maristow, Sir RALPH LOPES, Bart., M.P. for the southern division of the county of Devon, aged 65.
 January 27th, at Sherburn-house, Durham, aged 80, the Rev. GEORGE STANLEY FABER, Master of Sherburn Hospital, Durham, and Prebendary of Salisbury.
 January 29th, aged 11 years, at the residence of her grandmother, Mrs. WALDRON, Wellington, Somerset, EUNICE, the beloved daughter of the Rev. J. CHAPMAN DAVIE, of Aldermanbury Postern, London.
 January 21st, at South Lambeth, GEORGE HENRY, the only child of GEORGE BEAUFORT, Esq., aged 14 months.
 January 23rd, at Devonport, WILLIAM G. BYERS, Esq., aged 61, proprietor of the "Devonport Independent" newspaper.
 January 24th, at Penton Lodge, near Andover, ELIZABETH, wife of WILLIAM CURTIS, Esq., M.P.
 January 24, at Woodford, ELIZABETH, the wife of ABEL CHAPMAN, Esq., aged 27.
 January 25th, at Denmark-hill, MARION, the beloved wife of HENRY EDWARDS, Esq., aged 25.
 January 29th, at Southampton, EDWARD MIAL, the beloved and only son of Mr. GEORGE DOWMAN, Chemist.
 January 21st, at Bradford, Yorkshire, Mr. ARCHIBALD DICK, for many years a zealous and efficient Missionary in Edinburgh, Hull, and Bradford, aged 45.
 January 21st, at 2, Portland-place, Islington, ISABELLA, eldest daughter of Mr. ALEXANDER MARTIN.

Money Market & Commercial Intelligence.

City, Tuesday Evening.

THE Stock market has been exposed to considerable fluctuations during the past week. The higher prices of Friday were not maintained on Saturday. There was no further motive for this than the reported victory gained by the Turks at Kalifat, and which, it was inferred, might render peace less probable, but a rally subsequently took place owing to some considerable purchases of money stock. Yesterday the English Funds opened at a slight decline, and continued to show heaviness, throughout the day, although there was a partial recovery from the lowest prices. This morning also opened with a decline.

Sellers appeared very freely in the Foreign market, when Consols began to decline, and they were met sufficiently by buyers to prevent their operations having a very marked effect upon the prices. Russian Bonds have somewhat improved. The rally has been about 2½ per cent. Spanish Bonds have suffered also, owing to the arrest of the two generals supposed to have some designs against the Government. Mexican stock has improved.

The half-monthly settlement in Shares has gone off well, with the exception of one slight failure. There is little business doing, and Shares are about 10s. lower.

The railway calls for February amount to £1,021,504, of which £848,850 are for foreign companies. These totals are exclusive of the Grand Trunk of Canada.

The arrivals of specie during the week have been very large—namely, about £950,000, almost entirely in gold. The exports have been chiefly to the continent, and are estimated at not less than £450,000.

The trade reports from the manufacturing towns for the past week present nothing of interest, the condition of political affairs continuing to create dulness, but not depression. At Manchester the markets have been inactive, but with firmness in prices, owing to the strikes preventing any over accumulation of stocks. From Birmingham there are the usual advices of an all-pervading prosperity, and the still increasing demand for iron manufactures causes a further advance to be anticipated. At Nottingham business is healthy, but in the existing uncertainties purchasers limit their transactions to immediate wants. In the woollen districts the tone is so encouraging as to excite constant surprise, neither the prospects of war nor the high prices of all the necessities of life having apparently any influence in checking orders. Some public proceedings to encourage the growth of flax in Yorkshire have resulted in the formation of a Leeds Flax Society. In the Irish linen-markets there has been a good demand at firm quotations.

The departures from the port of London for the Australian colonies during the past week show an increase. They have comprised altogether eight vessels—two to Sydney, with an aggregate burden of 2,073 tons; two

to Port Phillip, with an aggregate burden of 1,560 tons; one to Swan River, of 582 tons; one to Hobart Town, of 461 tons; one to New Zealand, of 409 tons; and one to Launceston, of 387 tons. Their total capacity was consequently 5,462 tons. The rates of freight show a further tendency to decline.

In the general business of the port of London during the past week there has been diminished activity. The number of vessels reported inward was 107, being 40 less than in the previous week. Of sugar there was reported 1,098 hhds., 315 casks, 1,752 cases, and 45,251 bags; of tea, 24,315 packages; of coffee, 3,046 bags and 196 casks; of grain, 10,786 quarters, including 8,344 quarters of wheat; and of flour, 3,089 bags and 9,163 barrels. The number of ships cleared outward was 83, being 4 less than in the previous week, and of those, 19 were in ballast, and eight, as above stated, for the Australian colonies.

The Gazette.

Friday, January 27th, 1854.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending on Saturday, the 21st day of January, 1854.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.	
Notes issued	29,406,690
Government Debt	11,015,100
Other Securities	2,984,900
Gold Coin & Bullion	15,406,690
Silver Bullion	—
	£29,406,690

BANKING DEPARTMENT.	
Proprietor's Capital	14,553,000
Rest	3,333,780
Public Deposits	2,646,783
Other Deposits	13,894,599
Seven Day and other Bills	1,232,096
	£25,660,258

January 26, 1854. M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

This "Gazette" contains notices that the following places have been duly registered for the solemnization of marriages therein:—Mount Tabor Chapel, Sheffield.
 Berea Independent Chapel, Aberystwith.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.
 EDWARD SUMNER, Waterloo, near Liverpool, licensed victualler.

BANKRUPTCY.
 CHANCELLOR, H., Great Yarmouth, tailor, Feb. 7, March 9; solicitors, Mr. Story, Featherstone-buildings, Holborn; Mr. Chamberlain, Great Yarmouth.
 STONE, J., Little Moorfields, coachmaker, Feb. 7, March 7; solicitor, Mr. Neale, Trinity-square, Newington.
 MARTIN, L., Teignmouth, Baker, Feb. 8; solicitor, Mr. Willesford, Exeter.
 HUDSON, H., Huddersfield, cattle dealer, Feb. 10, March 3; solicitors, Mr. Clay, Huddersfield, and Messrs. Bond and Barwick, Leeds.
 PROCTOR, T., Lincoln, engineer, March 1; solicitor, Mr. Tweed, Lincoln.

DECLARATIONS OF DIVIDENDS.
 W. Miller, Dorking, auctioneer; first dividend of 2s., any Wednesday, at Mr. Whitmore's, Basinghall-street.—W. Gosling, Woolwich, ironmonger; second dividend of 2½d., on Thursday next, and three following Thursdays, at Mr. Graham's, Coleman-street.—J. Thomas, Little Stanhope-street, May-fair, builder; second dividend of 1s. 9d., on Thursday next, and three following Thursdays, at Mr. Graham's, Coleman-street.—J. W. Haylock, Lawrence-street, Chelsea, licensed victualler; first dividend of 3s. 4d., on Saturday, Jan. 28, and three subsequent Saturdays, at Mr. Edwards's, Sambrook-court, Basinghall-street.—C. Hitchman, Adde-street, warehouseman—first dividend of 16s. 8d., on Saturday, Jan. 28, and three subsequent Saturdays, at Mr. Edwards's, Sambrook-court, Basinghall-street.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.
 SCOTT, G. M., Wilton, Hawick, baker.
 RAE, J., Edinburgh, hat manufacturer.
 THOMSON, A., Edinburgh, deceased.
 WILLIAMSON, W., Pulteney-town, baker.

Tuesday, January, 31st.
 BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.
 DAVID FARRAR BOWER, Rawcliffe, Yorkshire, flax-scutter.

BANKRUPTCY.
 CHANCELLOR, H. Great Yarmouth, tailor, to surrender Feb. 7, at 11, and March 9, at 12, solicitors, Storey, Southampton-buildings, and Chamberlain, Great Yarmouth.
 PAXON, F. Bloomsbury-square, scrivener, Feb. 7 at 1, and March 16 at 12; solicitors, Messrs. Linklater, Sise-lane.
 CHARLTON, W. Basingstoke, Hampshire, grocer, Feb. 13 at 1, and March 14 at 12; solicitors, Lamb & Co., Basingstoke, and Johnson & Co., King's Bench-walk, Inner Temple.
 SMITH, L. M. R. Salisbury-street, Strand, family boarding-house keeper, Feb. 10 and March 17, at 12; solicitors, Messrs. Linklater, Sise-lane.
 WATTS, T. Cassington, Oxfordshire, cattle-dealer, Feb. 10 at 12, and March 17 at 1; solicitors, Field, Finchley, Middlesex, and Duke-street, Smithfield.
 VINCE, J. Great Yarmouth, boot and shoe maker, Feb. 1 at 2, and March 22 at 11; solicitors, Storey, Featherstone-buildings, Holborn, and Chamberlain, Great Yarmouth.
 LEVY, M., Little Alie-street, Goodman's-fields, clothier, Feb. 8, March 22; solicitors, Messrs. Linklater, Sise-lane.
 PURCELL, H., Dudley, Worcestershire, hosier, Feb. 11, March 4; solicitors, Messrs. Coldicott and Canning; Messrs. Dudley and Hodgson, Birmingham.
 GOODWIN, H. P., Solihull, Warwickshire tallow-chandler, Feb. 13, March 4; solicitors, Mr. Thomas, Ely-place, Holborn, and Mr. Hawkes, Birmingham.
 POINTON, J., Monks Coppenhall, Cheshire, inkeeper, Feb. 15, March 6; solicitors, Mr. Broughton, Nantwich.
 M'COLM, J., Manchester, waste-dealer, Feb. 13, March 8; solicitors, Messrs. Whitworth, Manchester.
 BENNET, J., Manchester, licensed victualler, Feb. 10, March 3; solicitor, Mr. Wilson, Manchester.
 CHESWORTH, W., Manchester, merchant, Feb. 16, March 9; solicitors, Messrs. Sale and Co., Manchester.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.
 MACLEAN, W., Dundee, draper.

DECLARATION OF DIVIDENDS.
 J. Beaumont, Lemon-street, Whitechapel, engineer; third dividend of 3s. 6d., Feb. 2, and three subsequent Thursdays, at Stansfeld's, Basinghall-street.—M. Canfield, Basinghall-street, City, woollen warehouseman; first dividend of 6d., Feb. 2, and three subsequent Thursdays, at Stansfeld's Basinghall-street.—J.

Earp, Uttoxeter, Staffordshire, brewer; first dividend of 5s. 0½d., any Thursday, at Whitmore's Birmingham.—T. Davies, Aberavon, Glamorganshire, grocer; first dividend of 3s. 4d., Feb. 1, and any subsequent Wednesday, at Millers's, Bristol.—J. C. Reeves, Rownham, Mills, Somersetshire, paint manufacturer; second dividend of 6½d., together with the former dividend of 6s. 8d., upon new proofs, Feb. 1, and at any subsequent Wednesday, at Miller's, Bristol.—T. Townsend, Bath, hat manufacturer; first dividend of 6d., Feb. 1, and any subsequent Wednesday, at Miller's, Bristol.—E. Emerson, Stella, Durham, ironfounder; final dividend of 1s. 4d., Feb. 4, and any subsequent Saturday, at Wakley's, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.—M. Davison, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, draper; final dividend of 1d., Feb. 4, and any subsequent Saturday, at Wakley's, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

Markets.

MARK-LANE, MONDAY, January 30, 1854.

The quantity of Wheat offering from our neighbouring counties this morning was small. Fine day samples sold slowly at last Monday's prices, but inferior went off with difficulty, although offered 1s. to 2s. lower. In foreign Wheat we had little doing, and prices rather in favour of the buyer. Of Flour the sale was limited, and previous prices barely maintained. Fine malting Barley without alteration; secondary qualities 1s. to 2s. lower than on Monday last. Beans and Peas rather cheaper. The supply of Oats was moderate; the Trade, however, was inactive at previous rates. Cloverseed met with rather more enquiry, but the season has not commenced yet. Linseed Cakes without alteration. The current Prices as under.

BRITISH.		FOREIGN.	
Wheat—	s. d.	Wheat—	s. d.
Essex and Kent, Red 74 to 86		Dantzic	84 to 90
Ditto White	76 88	Konigsberg, Red	80 86
Lincoln, Norfolk, & York		Pomeranian, Red	84 86
Yorkshire Red 74 84		Rostock	84 88
Northumb. & Scotch 74 84		Danish & Holstein	76 86
Eye	48 52	East Friesland	74 78
Barley malting (new) 42 44		Petersburg	72 75
Distilling	38 40	Riga and Archangel 56 65	
Malt (pale)	63 72	Polish Odessa	74 78
Beans, Mazagan	42 46	Marianopoli	73 89
Ticks	46 48	Taganrog	66 73
Harrow	44 56	Egyptian	62 66
Pigeon	54 60	American (U.S.)	80 92
Peas, White	58 60	Barley Pomeranian . . .	37 39
Grey	46 48	Konigsberg	37 39
Maple	48 50	Danish	36 43
Boilers	64 66	East Friesland	36 36
Tares (English)	55 56	Egyptian	28 35
Foreign	56 58	Beans—	
Oats (English feed)	36 38	Odessa	30 35
Flour, town made, per		Horse	42 46
Sack, of 280 lbs.	60 73	Pigeon	52 54
Linseed, English	52 54	Egyptian	50 53
Baltic	50 52	Peas, White	56 64
Black Sea	52 54	Oats—	
Hempseed	36 38	Dutch	26 31
Canaryseed	56 58	Jahde	25 31
Cloverseed per cwt. of		Danish	24 28
112lbs. English	58 70	Danish yellow feed . . .	26 30
German	60 90	Swedish	26 31
French	58 64	Petersburg	29 31
American	60 54	Flour, per bar. of 196 lbs.	
Linseed Cakes 28 to 214		New York	40 48
Rape Cake 26 to 26 10per ton		Spanish per sack	64 60
Rapeseed 226 to 230 per last		Caraway Seed	36 38

BUTCHERS' MEAT, SMITHFIELD, MONDAY, January 30.
 With home-fed Beasts we were rather scantily supplied, the number being considerably less than on Monday last. Although the attendance of buyers was by no means large, the Beef trade ruled steady at, in most instances, an advance in the quotations of 2d. per 8lbs., and a good clearance was effected. The primest Scots realized 4s. 8d. per 8lbs. From Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire, we received 1,800 Scots and Short-horns; from other parts of England, 800 of various breeds, and from Scotland, 330 horned and polled Scots. Notwithstanding that the show of Sheep was limited, the demand for that description of stock, arising from the large supplies of meat in New-gate and Leadenhall, was inactive. In prices, however, we have no change to notice. The primest old Downs sold at 5s. 2d. per 8lbs. A few shearlings were brought forward. Scarcely any Calves were on offer; hence, prices were very irregular. A very superior Calf was worth 6s. per 8lbs. Pigs were in short supply and sluggish request, on former terms.

Price per stone of 8lbs. (sinking the offal.)									
	s.	d.	s.	d.		s.	d.	s.	d.
Coarse and inferior					Prime coarse wool-				
Beasts	3	4	3	6	led Sheep	4	6	4	8
Second quality do. . . .	3	8	3	10	Prime South Down				
Prime large Oxen	4	0	4	4	Sheep	4	10	5	2
Prime Scots, &c.	4	6	4	8	Large coarse Calves	4	6	5	4
Coarse and inferior					Prime small do.	5	6	0	0
Sheep	3	2	3	6	Large Hogs	3	0	4	2
Second quality do. . . .	3	8	4	4	Neat small Porks	4	4	4	10
Suckling Calves, 23s. to 29s.;									
to 27s. each.					and quarter-old store Pigs, 21s.				

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL, Monday, January 30.—For the time of year, these markets continue to be well supplied with both town and country-killed meat. On the whole the trade is steady, as follows:—

Per 8lbs. by the carcass.									
	s.	d.	s.	d.		s.	d.	s.	d.
Inferior Beef	2	10	3	2	Inferior Mutton	3	0	3	6
Middling do.	3	4	3	6	Middling do.	3	8	4	2
Prime large do.	3	8	3	10	Prime do.	4	4	4	8
Do. small do.	4	0	4	2	Veal	3	10	5	2
Large Pork	3	4	4	2	Small Pork	4	4	5	0

PROVISIONS, London, Monday, January 30.—The transactions in Irish Butter last week, were extremely limited, and prices nominal. The arrivals of foreign were large, and supplied nearly all the wants of the trade, at rates varying according to kind and quality, from 8s. to 10s. per cwt. Bacon was not in active demand; the sales were on a moderate scale, and prices slightly lower. In Hams and Lard no change worth notice. The supplementary contract for Navy Provisions was declared on Thursday last. The Beef was taken at about £8, and the Pork at about £9 per cwt.

PRICES OF BUTTER, CHEESE, HAMS, &c.						
		s.	d.		s.	d.
Friesland	per cwt.	104	to	106	Cheshire (new)	64 to 80
Kiel		104		110	Cheddar	66 80
Dorset (new)		106		114	Double Gloucester	64 72
Carlisle do.		102		108	Single do	64 70
Waterford do.		98		102	York Hams (new)	74 84
Cork do.		100		101	Westmorland, do	70 80
Limerick, do		92		108	Irish do	66 74
Sligo, do		100		106	Wiltshire Bacon (green)	66 68
Fresh Butter per doz.		15		18	Waterford Bacon	64 66

BREAD. The prices of Wheat Bread in the Metropolis are from 11d. to 11½d.; and Household do., 9½d. to 10½d. per 4lbs. loaf.

POTATOES, BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELD, Monday, January 30. Very moderate supplies of Potatoes have appeared on sale here since our last report. The imports have been only 11 bags from Rotterdam. The general demand is steady, and prices are well supported. Kent and Essex Regents, 160s. to 180s.; Scotch ditto, 140s. to 160s.; ditto Cups, 120s. to 140s. per ton.

HOPS, Monday, January 30.—Our market remains without material alteration, and prices during the past week have continued tolerably firm, with a moderate demand.

METALS, LONDON, Saturday, January 28.—We have less doing in Tin; nevertheless, prices are fairly supported. Spelter

on the spot, in bulk at 23s 10s per ton. In lead and copper we have no change to notice. Quicksilver is 1d. per lb. lower. Scotch pig iron is quoted at 76s.

TALLOW, London, January 30.—The amount of business doing in our market is limited. Prices, however, are fairly supported. P.Y.C., on the spot, 63s. per cwt. Town Tallow, 62s. 6d., net cash. Rough Fat, 3s. 5d. per 8lb.

Particulars of Tallow	1850.	1851.	1852.	1853.	1854.
Stock	43,374	47,330	56,770	43,664	39,700
Price of Y.C.	38s. to 37s. 9d.	38s. to 37s. 9d.	38s. to 37s. 9d.	44s. 9d. to 40s. to	40s. to 38s. to
Os. Od.	Os. Od.	Os. Od.	Os. Od.	Os. Od.	Os. Od.
Delivery last week	1,487	2,872	2,434	2,338	1,247
Ditto from 1st June	67,375	68,524	75,580	70,789	71,930
Arrival last week	3,714	570	20	2,254	379
Ditto from 1st June	85,2274	90,334	95,780	73,868	88,315
Prices of Town	39s. 6d.	39s. 6d.	39s. 6d.	40s. 6d.	40s. 9d.

COVENT GARDEN, Saturday, January 29.—In consequence of the continuance of mild weather, Vegetables are well supplied, and Fruit is also sufficient for the demand. Late Grapes continue good. Pears consist of Glout Morceau, Buerre d'Hiver, Monsieur le Cure, Winter Crassane, Easter Buerre, and Ne Plus Meuris. Among Dessert Apples are good samples of Ribston Pippin, Old Nonpareil, and Newtown Pippin. Chestnuts are plentiful. Potatoes have altered but little since our last report. Asparagus is coming in at from 8s. to 10s. per hundred, and Seakale at from 2s. to 2s. 6d. per punnet. Carrots and Turnips are cheaper. Mushrooms are scarce. Cut flowers consist of Camellias, Ascleads, Oyclamens, Heaths, Hyacinths, Tulips, and Roses.

COTTON, Liverpool, January 30.—The market has closed with heaviness, at prices exhibiting little or no change from the closing rates of last week. The sales have amounted to 6,000 bales, 1,000 of which were taken by speculators, and comprised, in addition to Americans, 700 Egyptian, 64d. to 9d.; 600 Surats, 3d. to 4d.; and 20 Sea Islands, 17d. to 19d. per lb.

WOOL, City, Monday.—The market is quiet, as the public sales are so near at hand. The imports of wool into London last week were small. At Leeds there has been a moderately active demand for all descriptions of clothing wools. Prices firmly supported. In British wool there has been no disposition shown in the past week to operate in our market. In prices, however, we have no actual change to notice. At Liverpool there is a steady demand for all kinds of Scotch wool at late rates. Consumers, however, only buy for immediate wants.

HAY, SATURDAY, JANUARY 28.	At per load of 36 trusses.
Meadow Hay	Smithfield. 60s. to 108s.
Clover	80s. 126s.
Straw	34s. 43s.
	Cumberland. 60s. to 110s.
	80s. 120s.
	26s. 44s.
	Whitechapel. 60s. to 108s.
	80s. 126s.
	34s. 42s.

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